

## President Sadat gets official invitation to Jerusalem peace talks

At a packed session in Jerusalem, the Knesset overwhelmingly approved an invitation to President Sadat of Egypt to visit Israel and address the House on his peace proposals. Mr Sadat, who leaves today for talks in Damascus, has

said he is ready to fly to Israel "within a week". Israeli ministers were shocked today by Lieutenant-General Gur, the chief of staff, who suggested that President Sadat's peace feeler might be a feint to cover a projected military attack

## Plain Master Phillips weighed 7lbs 9oz when born a short yell from Paddington station

The Queen arrived at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, last night for her first glimpse of her grandson, who was born to Princess Anne at 10.46 am yesterday.

Sending broadly, she waved to an enthusiastic crowd when she arrived. Capt Mark Phillips had returned to visit his wife.

For several hours a crowd of nearly two hundred, including many children, had waited in the cold for a glimpse of the Queen.

The Queen left the hospital after half an hour. The crowd burst into spontaneous applause and cheering as she entered her car.

Alan Hamilton writes: Plain Master Phillips, the first royal baby to be born a commoner for more than 500 years, weighed 7lb 9oz at birth. He and his mother were in good health last night.

The birth took place in the maternity unit of the hospital's Lady Wing, a short walk from the back of Paddington station, in the presence of Captain Mark Phillips and Mr George Pinker, the Queen's gynaecologist, who is a consultant at St Mary's. The archaic practice of having a minister of the Crown present at royal births was discontinued before the arrival of the Prince of Wales.

The first public news of the birth was given by the Queen during an investiture at Buckingham Palace half an hour after the event. Within an hour official announcements were posted on the railings of Buckingham Palace and the Home Office in Whitehall.

On the hospital steps three members of the Guild of Professional Toastmasters, who had arrived with a present of a 6lb box of liqueur chocolates for



Captain Phillips congratulated by well-wishers outside the hospital on his arrival to visit Princess Anne.

the Princess, held an impromptu champagne party.

The baby, whose name has not yet been announced, is the first grandchild for the Queen and the first great-grandchild for Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Princess Anne was driven by her husband to the hospital at 4 am yesterday, and occupied a sparsely furnished 553-day private room decorated only by a picture of a horse, which the hospital said was a coincidence.

Shortly after the birth the Princess spoke by telephone to the Queen, and Captain Phillips spoke to his parents at Great Somford, Wiltshire, where a flag was hoisted and the church bells were rung.

The news was relayed to the Duke of Edinburgh in Germany, the Prince of Wales in Yorkshire, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward at Gordonstoun, the Home Secretary, Mr Rees, and Governors-General of the Commonwealth.

Members of The Honourable Artillery Company fired a 41-gun salute at the Tower of London. A second salute would

have been fired by soldiers of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, in Hyde Park, but they were on stand-by firefighting duty because of the firemen's strike.

Master Phillips arrived one day too late to coincide with the fourth wedding anniversary of his parents and the twenty-ninth birthday of his uncle, the Prince of Wales. His arrival will nevertheless cause maternal hearts to flutter throughout the land, and other places as well, although members of the public made

their way to the hospital doorway, deterred no doubt by the biting wind and the difficulty of finding such an unprepossessing back street behind a railway terminus.

Yesterday the Prime Minister sent a telegram of congratulation to Princess Anne and wrote a message of good wishes to the Queen on behalf of the entire House of Commons except Mr William Hamilton, MP, who, when told the news, commented: "How charming; another one on the payroll."

Royal commoner, page 4

## Overwhelming vote in Knesset

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Nov 15

Minutes after the Knesset had agreed to invite President Sadat for peace talks in Jerusalem, Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, met the United States Ambassador this evening in the Parliament building. Before a mass of cameras and microphones he handed the envoy an official invitation to be transmitted to the Egyptians through the American Ambassador in Cairo.

The historic move was made despite an extraordinary statement today by Lieutenant-General Mordechai Gur, the Israeli Chief of Staff, suggesting that President Sadat's talk of visiting Jerusalem might be a "deception" like that before Egypt's sudden onslaught against Israel at Yom Kippur, 1973.

The general said the Egyptians had in recent months heightened their preparations for a war "with the approach of 1978 and perhaps earlier". They had prepared a huge system of fortifications in Sinai which could absorb five divisions in a matter of hours.

Government leaders were shocked by the timing of the general's statement, although they did not dispute its content. Mr Ezer Weizman, the Defence Minister, said the general had acted beyond his competence.

Replying with unprecedented speed to four parliamentary questions, Mr Weizman said the Government and the Israel defence forces were alert to the "military preparations in Arab countries". But he added, the Chief of Staff had no business linking these with a possible visit by the President of Egypt. He said he would summon General Gur to explain his actions.

Mr Begin, replying to Mr Sadat's statement that he wished to come as soon as possible after

receiving an official invitation, said tonight that if the President arrived the start of next week, he would postpone his own planned visit to London.

If Mr Sadat came later in the week, Mr Begin said he would cut short his European visit and be at Ben-Gurion airport to receive the guest and drive with him to Jerusalem.

A report from the airport tonight said instructions had been received to remove the red carpet from the storehouse. The airport manager said he was ready for the historical event except that he lacked an Egyptian flag.

The Parliament was packed for today's dramatic session. Mr Begin denied his purpose in inviting the Egyptian leader had been to drive a wedge between Egypt and the other Arab states. He declared solemnly: "From this platform I invite for peace negotiations President Assad of Syria, King Hussein of Jordan and President Sarkis of Lebanon."

"What about Yasser Arafat of the PLO?" chimed in Mr Wilner, a Communist: "You may interrupt me," the Prime Minister replied good-naturedly, "but when President Sadat stands on this rostrum, don't interrupt."

The small Communist faction was the only one critical of the development. Their spokesman said it was an American sponsored move which would not bring peace.

The feeling among other speakers was that there had been an historic breakthrough, whether or not the visit came off. Mr Nafai, the Democratic Movement for Change said the applause in Parliament for Mr Sadat's announcement shattered the legend that no Arab leader could speak of peace with Israel.

Mr Nafai said he would survive. Our Cairo Correspondent writes: President Sadat today

kept up his peace initiative, telling visiting American Congressmen that as soon as he received an Israeli invitation he was ready to go to discuss a Middle East peace settlement.

In another move to speed up resumption of the Geneva talks, Mr Sadat had earlier urged all parties to drop procedural bickering, saying he did not care about procedure.

Throughout his peace offensive, Mr Sadat has reassured that Egypt will not sign a separate peace treaty with Israel nor set aside the Palestine issue.

Today, he reiterated that the Palestinian problem was the core of the Middle East conflict and "for this, the Palestinian presence in a single Arab Delegation (at Geneva talks) is necessary".

Mr Sadat, who is due to leave here for Syria tomorrow, said his flight to Damascus was not linked with his proposal to visit Israel. It had been planned before he made his declaration.

President Assad of Syria could not impose anything on him, Mr Sadat said, nor could he impose anything on the Syrian President. Nevertheless observers here believe that Mr Sadat will explain his peace initiative in the Damascus talks.

Syria has so far made no comment on President Sadat's offer to go to Israel.

The Egyptian official Middle East News Agency, in a report from Washington, today identified the American proposed of Palestinian origin, proposed but not named by President Sadat, as a delegate to the Geneva conference. The agency said he was Dr. Edward Said, a professor of English at Columbia University, New York.

Dr Said is a member of the Palestinian National Council (Palestinian in exile) which met here last March.

Leading article, page 19

## Warm response from Washington

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, Nov 15

The American Government has given a warm, though rather startled welcome to President Sadat's proposal to go to Jerusalem and to doing everything to facilitate the trip.

United States officials, like most other observers, discovered the suggestion was more than a bluff or a publicity stunt when they saw the Egyptian President interviewed on television last night.

Mr Sadat told the CBS interviewer, Walter Cronkite: "Really, I'm looking forward to fulfilling this visit in the earliest time possible." Mr Cronkite asked: "That could be, say, within a week?" and the President replied: "You can say that, yes."

A formal invitation to Mr Sadat was delivered to the American Ambassador in Israel today and a State Department official said it would be transmitted to Cairo "with the greatest of pleasure". The spokesman did not reveal the terms of the invitation, saying that was a matter for Mr

Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, or Mr Sadat.

The spokesman insisted that a definitive peace in the Middle East could only come with a comprehensive settlement and that this would be achieved through reconvening the Geneva peace conference.

In last night's television interview, President Sadat, speaking in English, said he was at a crucial moment and that he had been a suitable moment in the Arab world to reach genuine peace like we are now, so I want to put the facts before them (the Israelis), and at the same time we want to discuss what will be the other alternative if we can't achieve peace. It would be horrible, believe me, horrible."

Mr Cronkite then interviewed Mr Begin (via television satellite) and told him of Mr Sadat's statement. The Prime Minister replied: "Very good news. If President Sadat is ready to come next week, if he says that he will come next week, I will go to postpone my trip to Beirut because I am supposed to go next Sunday to London

at the invitation of Prime Minister Callaghan.

"I suppose that Mr Callaghan will also be agreeable to postpone that meeting for a week and have President Sadat in Jerusalem before he gives his speech to have peace in the Middle East."

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: Mr Callaghan made it known yesterday that he will not be offended should Mr Begin decide to postpone his visit in order to receive President Sadat.

All the preparations are going ahead for Mr Begin's visit, due to take place on November 20 to 23. But last night Downing Street was making quite seriously the possibility that President Sadat might accept Mr Begin's invitation.

In the British Government's view, such a visit would be a significant move in furthering a dialogue in the Middle East. It would be quite accepted, therefore, if Mr Begin's visit had to be postponed.

Tension among US Jews, page 12

## Police conflict on Biko death

Conflicts in police evidence on how Steve Biko, the black South African leader, suffered a fatal head injury in detention were exposed on the second day of the inquiry. A security policeman who said Mr Biko had gone "berserk" after being shown proof that he planned violent revolution was accused of trying to smear the dead man.

Page 12

## Fighting for Papua

West Irian guerrillas are waging a jungle war against Indonesia in an effort to win independence for the province they call Papua. Their base is in neighbouring Papua New Guinea, but there is no welcome for them from the authorities there.

Page 13

## Hospital findings

Too little attention was paid to security at the state hospital at Carstairs, Strathclyde, a report on the escape of two patients last year states. It makes more than 40 recommendations.

Page 4

## Anti-Shah protest

An angry student demonstration disrupted President Carter's welcoming ceremony for the Shah of Iran outside the White House. But men were seen wiping their eyes as tear gas fired by police drifted across the lawn.

Page 11

## World trade lag seen

A report prepared by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development says that the industrial world is heading for another year of slow growth in trade and output, and rising unemployment in 1978.

Page 25

## Move to control rate increases

The Government's rate-support grant to local authorities, to be announced on Friday, is designed to avoid any heavy burden on ratepayers on the Local Government Finance Bill. The need to encourage counter-inflation measures means that rate increases restricted to less than a tenth throughout Britain must be acceptable.

Page 8

## EEC wants answer

The EEC wants to know whether Parliament is likely to ratify the convention to allow direct elections to the European Parliament early next summer. Dr Owen will be pressed to give a clear answer next month.

Page 10

## Brandt warning to left

Left-wing rebels were warned by Herr Willy Brandt, the party president, at the Social Democrats' congress in Hamburg against endangering the Bonn coalition Government's narrow majority by opposing controversial legislation.

Page 10

Gale towns' aid: Damaged towns on the north-west coast may get special government aid, Mr Callaghan told MPs.

Deals "top 10%": The white-collar section of the engineering workers' union, says most pay settlements being negotiated for members have topped 10 per cent.

Horn of Africa: Gun battle in Addis Ababa as Cubans leave Somalia, the day before the Russians go.

Home News 2, 4, 6, 8  
European News 10  
Overseas 11, 13, 14  
Parliament 21, 28  
Diary 23  
Arts 24-30  
Business 24-30

## First caps for three England players

There are three new caps in England's team to play Italy in a World Cup qualifying match at Wembley tonight: Stephen Manley, a 21-year-old forward from Manchester City and Lutetia of Everton. Birmingham's Trevor Francis is a surprising omission.

Page 14

Letters: On the firemen's strike, from the Archbishop of Westminster; and others; an on mapping archaeology, from Professor A. L. F. River and Dr D. W. Rhind. Leading articles: Middle East: CBI conference. Features, pages 18 and 22.

Henry Stanhope on the troubling statistics in Northern Ireland's bandit country; Ian Budge and Dennis Ffytche on the dangerous game of waiting for better times to spring a general election.

Sport, pages 14 and 15  
Tennis: Rex Bellamy sees different victory by Mousset in Wimbledon; Athletics: Cliff Temple on an attempt to stamp out drug-taking.

Obituary, page 21  
Mr Richard Adinolfi, Professor Frances Moran. Arts, page 23.

Michael Church on Panorama (BBC1); Ned Chaillet on The Comedy of Errors (Aldwych Theatre); David Robinson at the Paris Film Festival; Kenneth Loveland on Billy Budd in Cardiff.

Business News, pages 24-30  
Stock markets: Shares lost ground after some disappointing company results and the FT index closed 8.8 lower at 487.9.

Financial Editor: Downgrading at Courtlaids; Insurance, Royal Steadfast's nerves; Chloride strike damage.

Business features: Maurice Corina on the problems faced by the Government over British Steel closures.

Law Report 20  
Letters 19, 26  
TV & Radio 14, 35  
Theatres, etc 21  
25 Years Ago 23  
Weather 24  
Sale Room 21  
Science 21

## Narrow majorities likely for devolution guillotines

By Fred Emery  
Political Editor

Rebellious Labour MPs seem to have given up hope of defeating the Government in today's key votes setting time-tables for the Scotland and Wales devolution Bills.

But as the second reading debate on the Wales Bill began last night, government sources and rebels were predicting that the Government's majorities would probably be down to single figures. That contrasts with the deceptive majority of 44 for the Scotland Bill second reading on Monday night.

The Government will today receive a deputation of Shetlanders who wish to have a referendum on whether to continue as part of Scotland after devolution.

Anything the Government could do to ease their anxieties would doubtless assure the vote of Mr Jo Grimmond, Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland, whose colleagues believe that he may otherwise abstain.

Otherwise it seems that only one Liberal, Mr Richard Wainwright, MP for Colne Valley, will vote against the Government.

The closeness of tonight's votes arises as follows: The 12 Tories now at the European Assembly in Strasbourg will be back for the three-line whip, which should also bring into line all but one or two of the score of Conservative "rebels" who either voted with the Government or abstained on Monday.

Their Labour counterparts were not at Strasbourg.

The key question is how many Labour members will vote against or abstain tonight on the guillotine motions, which would set 17 and 11 days for the Scotland and Wales Bills respectively at committee and report stages; whether the guillotines, which limit debate, there is little prospect of the passage of either Bill.

Our Parliamentary Correspondent writes: With Labour opponents of the Welsh devolution proposals hovering closely around him, Mr Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, last night stoutly defended himself and the Government against the charge that an assembly in Cardiff would be merely a talking shop.

He emphasized that the legislation in no way affected the unity of the United Kingdom or the supremacy of Parliament.

He believed that a measure of devolution to Wales would help to preserve and strengthen unity, because a large measure of decision-making would be transferred close to the people; more decisions would be taken by a democratically elected assembly as opposed to a minister or a nominated body.

Mr Morris said that powers which would be devolved covered primarily environmental and social matters, those concerning the economy, industry, agriculture, training and employment, which went to the heart of the unity of the United Kingdom, would remain with the Welsh Office.

Parliamentary report, page 16

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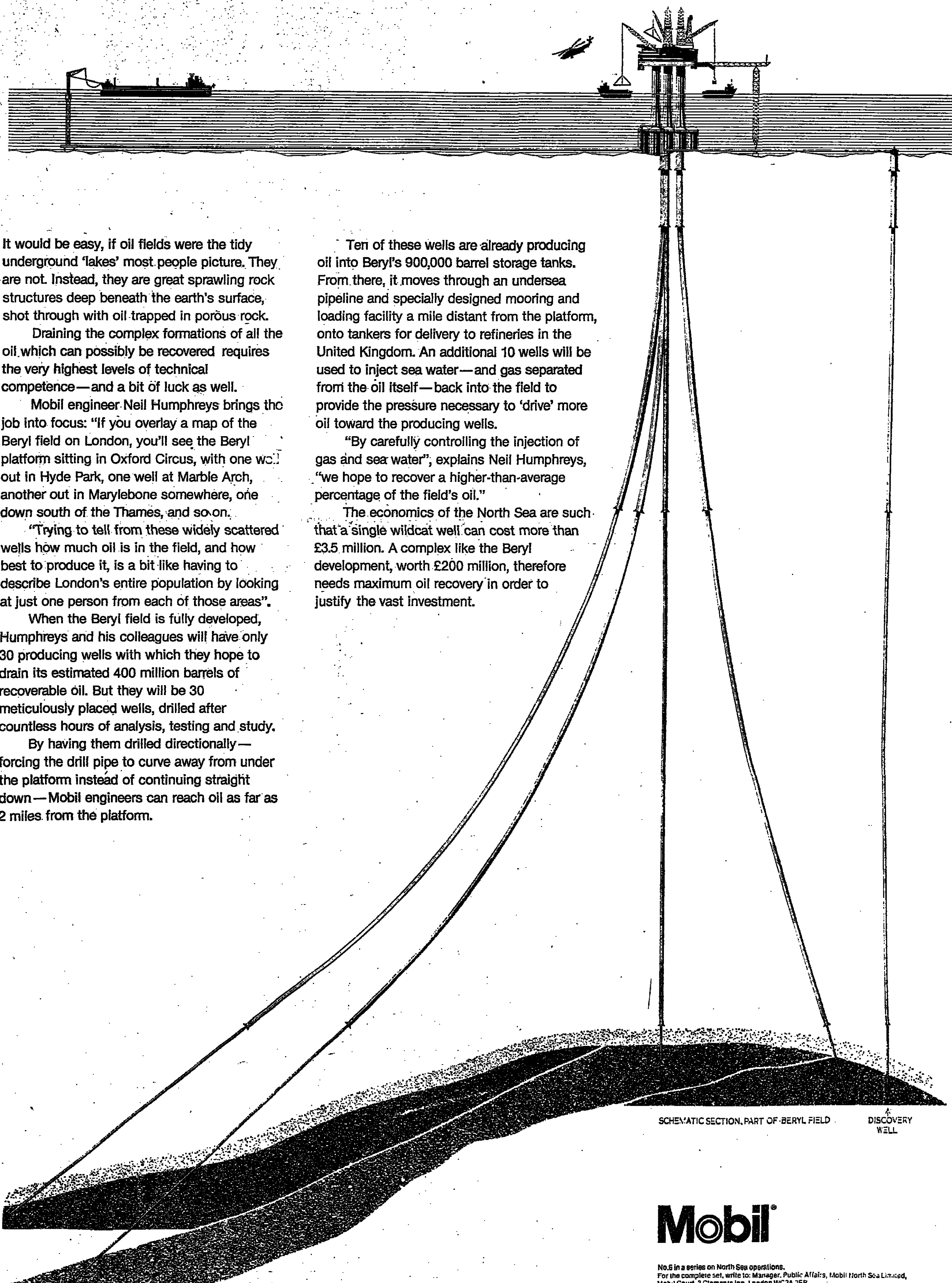
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"Trying to tell from these widely scattered wells how much oil is in the field, and how best to produce it, is a bit like having to describe London's entire population by looking at just one person from each of those areas".

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"By carefully controlling the injection of gas and sea water", explains Neil Humphreys, "we hope to recover a higher-than-average percentage of the field's oil."

The economics of the North Sea are such that a single wildcat well can cost more than £3.5 million. A complex like the Beryl development, worth £200 million, therefore needs maximum oil recovery in order to justify the vast investment.

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## HOME NEWS

### Routine security at Scots hospital not enforced, report says

From Our Own Correspondent  
Glasgow

Not enough attention was paid to enforcing routine security precautions at the state hospital at Carstairs, Strathclyde, the report of the public inquiry into the escape of two patients in November last year states. During the escape a male nurse, a police officer and another patient were murdered.

The report, by Sheriff Principal Robert Reid, QC, makes more than forty recommendations on management and security at the hospital.

THE SAYS THAT NURSE Neil McLellan, who was killed, acted with great courage. Had he counter-attacked with the weapons he took from Thomas McCulloch, one of the patients, or attempted to escape, the results might have been very different. Instead he had attempted to secure Robert Mone and Ian Simpson, two other patients, and to disarm Mr McCulloch.

The report found that Mr McCulloch must have spent up to two hours in the woodwork department at the hospital making knives and swords. It recommends that there should be more control over work done in the department and

over the issue of materials and the disposal of metal waste. Other recommendations include the erection of a second fence around the west wing of the hospital, the appointment of someone with a thorough and up-to-date knowledge of prison security to the management committee, together with two nurses not members of staff.

A security officer should be employed to assist the principal nursing officer, and an annual inspection should be carried out by an independent expert, the report says.

The report pays tribute to the hospital staff. They did work that few would consider undervalued, and they did it with steady dedication, it says. George "Irresponsible": Two groups, the Citizens' Commission for Human Rights and a "breakaway" body, the Committee for Social Justice and Medical Research, both of which gave evidence at the inquiry, behaved irresponsibly, the report says (the Press Association reports).

Mr Thomas Oswald, principal nursing officer, had failed to enforce routine security precautions, the report says. He had a lack of drive and very limited powers of discipline over his staff.

### Royal commoner makes his mark in constitutional history

By Philip Howard

The son born yesterday to Princess Anne becomes first in line to the Throne, overtaking Princess Margaret and her children, Lord Lindsey and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, in the succession.

The Queen's first grandchild, born in the year of her silver jubilee, has already made a curious footnote in constitutional history by being the first grandchild of a ruling sovereign for five centuries to be born a commoner. The last time that happened was early in the sixteenth century, Cicely, third daughter of Edward IV, married plain Thomas Kyme in 1504 and, according to some authorities, had a son and a daughter by him.

Buckingham Palace has announced that Captain Philip will not be given a title and Princess Anne will be created a duchess or given a title in her own right. Those were the only ways that the baby could be born into the peerage, in spite of being fifth in the succession. Captain Philip and Princess Anne preferred not to take a title.

Titles are but nicknames, and every nickname is a title. Nevertheless, the decision creates nice constitutional precedents and paradoxes. It raises the probability that no more hereditary titles will be created, which would increasingly isolate the hereditary monarchy as a unique institution. We shall have to wait and see what happens to any children that Prince Andrew and Princess Edward have.

Princess Anne's child is bound in the course of time to have various titles on behalf of the Queen, notably as a Counsellor of State. Those counsellors have been appointed from the earliest times during the absence of the Sovereign, and it is to be expected that the child will be given a title of nobility or difficulty in the dispatch of public business.

On reaching the age of 18 the child will become eligible to be a counsellor of state ahead of Princess Margaret, and will certainly have to serve a turn, for any children of Prince Andrew and Princess Edward will be too young at least for a time to act as counsellors.

That will create the agreeable and fashionable precedent

that any statutes or other official documents that have to be signed in the Queen's absence will bear a commoner's signature for the first time in our constitutional history, excluding Oliver Cromwell from the calculation.

The reason that the child inherits no title through Princess Anne derives from the changes in 1917 to the name and style of the House of Windsor. Before those changes the granddaughters of Edward VII, for example, took the title Her Highness Princess (Alexandra and Mary) from their mother, Princess Louise. Normally, title is given to the father. The Earl of Snowdon was given his very much at the eleventh hour of the pregnancy.

The child is, of course, a member of the select group, the Royal Family. In Great Britain it is possible to be a member of the Royal Family without having any kind of title. For example, Captain Alexander Ramsey of Mar is in the list, and, what is more, senior to Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, who is a British Royal Highness.

The baby will be senior to Princess Margaret and all the rest except the Queen's own children. Other members of the Royal Family are Sir Henry Abel-Smith, the Hon Gerald Lascelles, and the Dukes of Gloucester and Kent.

The baby expected by the Duchess of Gloucester will be either Lord or Lady (Christian name) Windsor, depending on its sex.

The closest precedent to Princess Anne's case is that of Princess Alexandra, the Queen's cousin. She accepted no courtesy title for herself or her husband, Mr Angus Ogilvy, and accordingly their children are plain Master James and Miss Marina Ogilvy.

Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, was not obliged to be present at the birth as he would have been 30 years ago. The remarkable custom necessitating the attendance of the Home Secretary at royal births had no constitutional basis, but it was strictly adhered to.

It did not, as is commonly believed, even date from the "warming-pan incident" of

1688, when the Whigs alleged that the baby born to James II's Queen, Mary of Modena, had died shortly after birth and that a substitute had been smuggled into St James's Palace in a warming-pan, to become eventually the Old Pretender, to the Jacobites, King James III. There is, in fact, no clue to the origin of the custom, which was abandoned on the occasion of the birth of the present Prince of Wales on November 14, 1948.

Mr Patrick Montague-Smith, the editor of Debut's Peerage, said yesterday that whatever Princess Anne had chosen to do about a title would have created a precedent. "In the past royal princesses married either a prince or a member of the peerage. In either case their children had a title anyway."

Never before has the situation arisen in which the monarch's grandchild is a commoner, but, equally, never before has a royal princess been created a peeress. Mr Montague-Smith said he was mildly surprised that neither parent accepted a title, but "I suppose it is the trend now."

### Soldier-bashing expedition by gang, counsel says

Fourteen young men looked for anyone who had short hair when they went on soldier-bashing expeditions, two of their victims were students, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. The prosecution alleged that the defendants said they wanted revenge for trouble they said soldiers had been causing in their area.

Judge Argyle, QC, told the defendants, who had pleaded guilty to various offences, "If a five breaks out at your home tonight and your grandparents or brothers are in danger, are you going to call the Army, who you know will have to go or will you have the guts and 'have a go' yourselves?"

In the dock were: David Brewer, aged 18, student, of The Balldreys, Farnham, Surrey; Gordon Powell, aged 20, driver, of

Sandy Hill Estate, Farnham; Alan Williams, aged 19, labourer, of Sandy Hill Estate; Keith White, aged 18, of Upper Wey, Farnham; Mark Atkins, aged 18, junior draughtsman, of The Balldreys; David Boniface, aged 18, roofing contractor, of Sandy Hill Estate; John Wood, aged 17, of Arthur Road, Farnham; Barry Cole, aged 19, machine operator, of Sandy Hill Estate; Stephen Clark, aged 23, milkman, of West Ring, Tongham, Surrey; White, aged 18, quarry worker, of Talbot Road, Farnham, and four school boys.

The defendants visited various public houses and finished up at Bordon, near the Army camp. They carried pickaxe or shovel handles and attacked three Territorial Army soldiers.

The next weekend their victim was a student, Stephen Trebble, aged 19, at Ash Vale. He was attacked and robbed of £3.60 and his keys.

The trial continues today.

### Damages claim by man who alleges beating by police

From Our Correspondent  
Manchester

A man was beaten up in a police station by five or six officers and later struck with a truncheon while being held down in a cell, it was alleged at the High Court in Manchester yesterday.

Mr Terence Loftus, aged 34, was found to have kidney damage and had psychiatric treatment for depression because of his experiences at the police station, Mr Patrick Russell, QC, his counsel, said. He was taken to a police station after being stopped while driving a van. It was suggested that he had stolen scrap metal or had handled it dishonestly.

Mr Russell continued: "The metal belonged to his employers, a firm of demolition contractors, and he was lawfully driving the vehicle. The police were not satisfied, and he was escorted to a police station, the

scene of a disgraceful sequence of events."

Mr Loftus is claiming damages for unlawful arrest, false imprisonment, assault, and malicious prosecution. The Chief Constable of Manchester denies all the allegations.

Mr Russell said that inquiries were made at Wilt Street police station which Mr Loftus felt cleared him of theft or handling. He became impatient and decided to leave. "He says he was struck by a police officer as he tried to do so."

A number of officers set about him, beating him badly with their fists and in a cell a truncheon was used, causing serious injuries to his kidneys.

Mr Russell said that later magistrates dismissed charges against Mr Loftus of assaulting an officer, and damaging a shirt and watch.

The hearing before Mr Justice Cawley, continues today.

### Grunwick woman workers to hold hunger strike

By Annabel Ferriman

Woman strikers at the Grunwick film processing plant, north-west London, are to start a hunger strike tomorrow, it was announced at the Communist Party's national congress in London yesterday.

Mr Tom Durkin, Brent branch, London, said the strike might fail unless the whole trade union movement could be mobilized behind it, so a hunger strike was to be held outside the headquarters of the TUC to persuade it to act.

Demonstrations would be mounted outside the TUC Gen-

eral Council meeting next Wednesday. The strike had demonstrated to black workers the support of white trade unionists. A defeat would be disastrous for race relations. "We have got to go into action to win this battle for democracy, for black people and for union rights."

The 400 delegates unanimously passed a motion congratulating the strikers on their "courageous and magnificent" 15-month struggle. It called on the TUC General Council and the unions concerned to cut off all services, including post, power and water, to the Grunwick factory.

"The Grunwick strike has shown that existing legislation

does not guarantee the right to join a union, to strike and picket," it said.

Delegates voted overwhelmingly for the new draft of the party programme, The British Road to Socialism. Only 29 votes were cast against the document, which advocates a "broad democratic alliance" against capitalism.

It declares that the transition to socialism will be brought about through a series of left-Labour governments, and socialist governments would be subject to the ballot box. All parties would be tolerated "even those hostile to socialism."

Although the British Communist Party dislikes the term

Euro-communism, its philosophy clearly has much in common with the French and Italian parties, which have been working with other parties on the left for several years.

Of local branches 2,600 amendments to the new draft, the drafting committee accepted 170 in principle and 77 conditionally. 1,300 were remitted to the executive. About 900 were not acceptable.

The delegates, representing 245 workplaces and 583 local branches, were on average three years older than the last congress two years ago and included fewer women, 17.2 per cent compared with 22 per cent.

### Only half education college teachers are graduates

By Our Education Correspondent

Only just over half the teachers of future teachers in colleges of education in 1975 were graduates, according to government figures published today. In other institutions of further and higher education, excluding universities, fewer than two fifths of the teaching staff were graduates.

On March 31, 1975, there were 10,810 teachers in colleges of education in England and Wales, of whom 5,166 or 57 per cent were graduates. Of the 63,194 teachers in other institutions of further education, 37 per cent were graduates. In the polytechnics two fifths of the 13,000 lecturers and professors were not graduates.

In state schools, two fifths of the 216,736 secondary school teachers were graduates but

only 8 per cent of the 201,318 primary school teachers were. The Government has said it hopes there will be an all-graduate entry into the teaching profession by 1979 or 1980.

In direct-grant grammar schools 4,474 of the 6,996 teachers, or nearly two in every three, were graduates. That is a higher proportion even than in the independent schools recognized by the Government as official, where 12,672 of the 22,251 teachers were graduates.

In all educational establishments men were more likely to have degrees than women. Women outnumbered men by three to one in state primary schools, but in secondary schools there were four men to every three women.

Statistics of Education 1975, volume 4, teachers. (Stationary Office, £7).

### Boy of 15 ordered to be detained for life

A boy of 15 who killed his playmate, aged seven, with a hammer while they were building a hole-in-the-ground camp has ordered at Stafford Crown Court yesterday to be detained for life.

Mr Maurice Drake, QC, for the prosecution, said the boys were making their camp on waste ground at Darlington, when the younger one went to get some wood.

When he returned, unheard, counsel said, he came up behind the defendant who caught him an accidental blow with the hammer, which rendered him unconscious and ended his bleeding to the ground.

"It seems that the boy was his small friend bleeding and

unconscious, the accused panicked. He hit him a further blow with the hammer. For some reason he is unable to explain why he tied his hands behind his back with wire and covered the boy's body with a coat and went home."

The 15-year-old, said to be immature and educationally sub-normal, pleaded no guilty to the murder of Andrew Lees, of Herbert Park Road, Darlington, but admitted manslaughter. The plea was accepted.

### Ted Ray's death

Ted Ray, the comedian, of Wincoburn, Essex, London, died from a heart attack, Dr Arnold Meadows, the deputy coroner, said at Darlington yesterday when he recorded a verdict of death from natural causes.

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# Soldier-bashing expedition by gang, counsel says

Fourteen young men looked for anyone who had short hair when they went on soldier-bashing expeditions, two of their victims were students, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. The prosecution alleged that the defendants said they wanted revenge for trouble they said soldiers had been causing in their area.

Judge Argyle, QC, told the defendants, who had pleaded guilty to various offences, "If a five breaks out at your home tonight and your grandparents or brothers are in danger, are you going to call the Army, who you know will have to go or will you have the guts and 'have a go' yourselves?"

In the dock were: David Brewer, aged 18, student, of The Balldreys, Farnham, Surrey; Gordon Powell, aged 20, driver, of Sandy Hill Estate, Farnham; Alan Williams, aged 19, labourer, of Sandy Hill Estate; Keith White, aged 18, of Upper Wey, Farnham; Mark Atkins, aged 18, junior draughtsman, of The Balldreys; David Boniface, aged 18, roofing contractor, of Sandy Hill Estate; John Wood, aged 17, of Arthur Road, Farnham; Barry Cole, aged 19, machine operator, of Sandy Hill Estate; Stephen Clark, aged 23, milkman, of West Ring, Tongham, Surrey; White, aged 18, quarry worker, of Talbot Road, Farnham, and four school boys.

The defendants visited various public houses and finished up at Bordon, near the Army camp. They carried pickaxe or shovel handles and attacked three Territorial Army soldiers.

The next weekend their victim was a student, Stephen Trebble, aged 19, at Ash Vale. He was attacked and robbed of £3.60 and his keys.

The trial continues today.

# Damages claim by man who alleges beating by police

A man was beaten up in a police station by five or six officers and later struck with a truncheon while being held down in a cell, it was alleged at the High Court in Manchester yesterday.

Mr Terence Loftus, aged 34, was found to have kidney damage and had psychiatric treatment for depression because of his experiences at the police station, Mr Patrick Russell, QC, his counsel, said. He was taken to a police station after being stopped while driving a van. It was suggested that he had stolen scrap metal or had handled it dishonestly.

Mr Russell continued: "The metal belonged to his employers, a firm of demolition contractors, and he was lawfully driving the vehicle. The police were not satisfied, and he was escorted to a police station, the scene of a disgraceful sequence of events."

Mr Loftus is claiming damages for unlawful arrest, false imprisonment, assault, and malicious prosecution. The Chief Constable of Manchester denies all the allegations.

Mr Russell said that inquiries were made at Wilt Street police station which Mr Loftus felt cleared him of theft or handling. He became impatient and decided to leave. "He says he was struck by a police officer as he tried to do so."

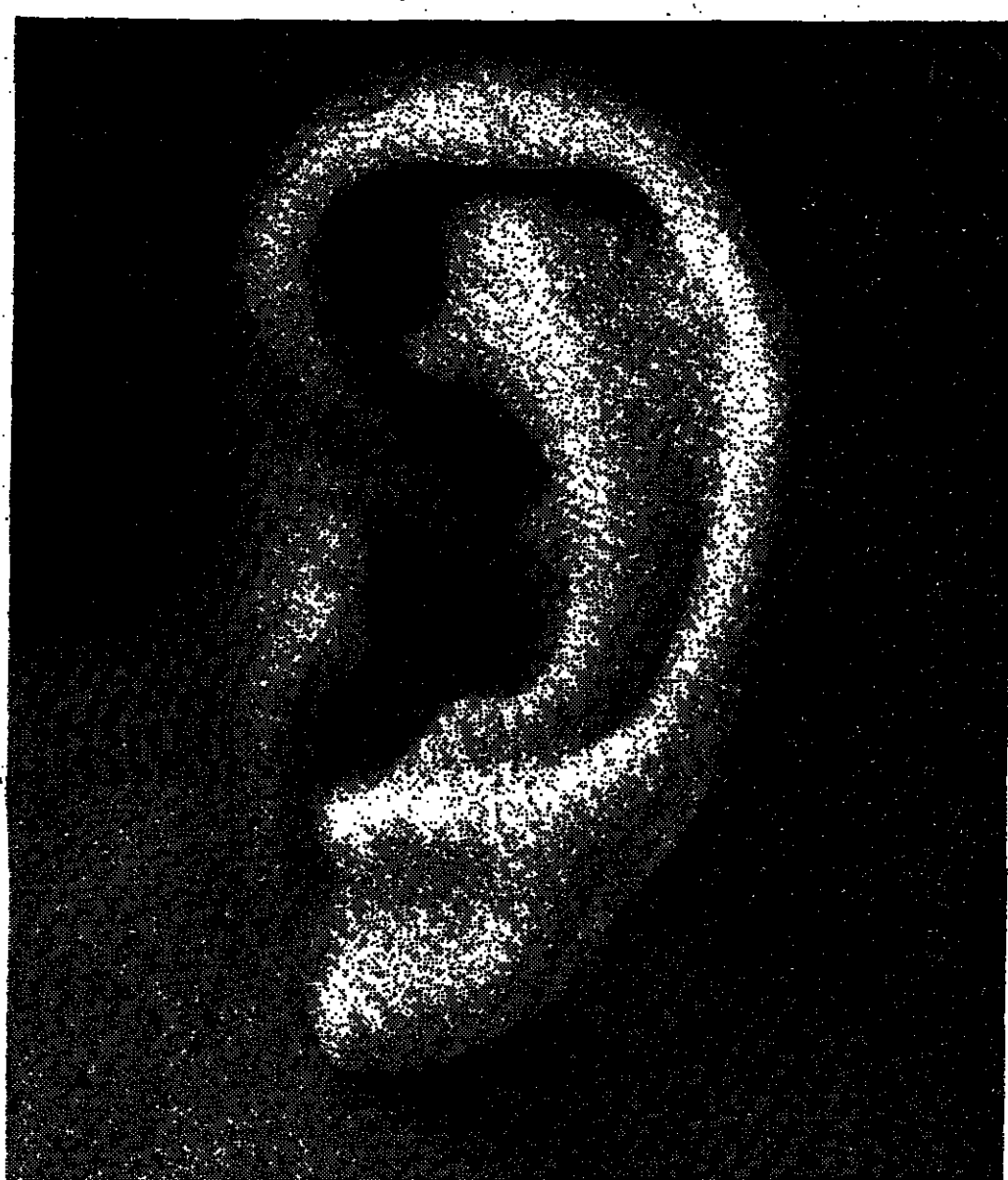
A number of officers set about him, beating him badly with their fists and in a cell a truncheon was used, causing serious injuries to his kidneys.

Mr Russell said that later magistrates dismissed charges against Mr Loftus of assaulting an officer, and damaging a shirt and watch.

The hearing before Mr Justice Cawley, continues today.



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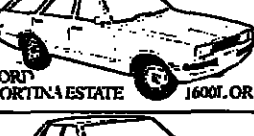

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	DAILY PER MILE <b>£6.75 (7p)</b>	£8.50 (8½p)	£8.25 (8½p)	£11.00 (11p)
FORD CORTINA ESTATE 1600L OR SIMILAR	UNLIMITED WEEKLY <b>£72.80</b>	£102.00	£94.50	Not shown
	DAILY PER MILE <b>£9.75 (10p)</b>	£13.00 (12½p)	£12.50 (13p)	£19.00 (19p)
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## HOME NEWS

## Short-term farm tenancies urged

From Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

Landowners should break down barriers against young people who want to farm by offering short-term tenancies, Mr Peter Giffard, a member of the Northfield Committee on buying and occupation of farmland, said yesterday.

He said in one of the first public statements by a member of the committee, set up in September by Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: "I think fixed-term tenancies have a lot of future."

He wanted a young man of, say, 25 to be given the chance of a tenancy that would be guaranteed to last five years.

That is an unusual concept, since long duration is considered a cardinal feature of useful agricultural activity. Although Mr Giffard emphasized that his statement was not a guide to the committee's views, Mr Silkin has told it to investigate "the difficulties facing young people who wish to enter farming as their career."

Mr Giffard was speaking at a conference held on the site of the Royal Show at which speakers debated the squeeze exerted on the delicate fabric of agricultural holdings by shrinking area, haphazard planning, and rapidly rising land prices.

Mr Tom Boden, vice-president of the National Farmers' Union, said it was also squeezed by a national obsession with cheap food. "We are looking for a society in which food is valued on the basis of a reasonable standard of living for all those who are involved in its production, including the landowner. We in this country have never valued food in its proper perspective."

Threats to the survival of good farmland were highlighted by Mr Roger Sayce, chief surveyor in the Government's farm advisory service. In the early 1970s farmland had been lost in Britain at a rate of 73,000 acres a year, he said. Farmland was very quickly and simply converted to other uses.

## Marxists in higher education, 3: Non-formal institutions and the media

## Annual communist universities and courses at a 'Red Weekend'

By Ian Bradley

The allegations of Marxist infiltration made in the Gould report concern not only the universities and polytechnics, but also the less formal and institutional parts of the higher education system. In particular, Professor Julius Gould and his associates are concerned about the Communist University of London, the Open University and trends in publishing.

The educational activities of the Communist Party, and in particular the growth of the annual university it runs, are regarded with deep suspicion by those who believe there is a concerted Marxist conspiracy to take over institutions of higher education. The Gould report published as an appendix a full list of participants in last year's Communist University, an issue regarded as McCarthyist by those on the left.

Dr John Marks, lecturer in physics at North London Polytechnic, quotes articles from *Marxism Today* outlining the Communist Party's strategy of changing the content of courses in universities and polytechnics

and organizing students and staff in colleges "as part of our struggle for a socialist revolution in Britain."

There is no doubt that the involvement of the Communist Party in higher education has increased in the past decade. When the Communist University started in 1969 it attracted 120 participants. This year 1,350 people attended the nine-day course. There are now annual communist universities in other places. A "Red Weekend" in Manchester earlier this month featured courses in sexual politics, health and social care, and science and technology.

Mr Kenneth Spours, national student organizer of the Communist Party, says the purposes of the Communist University is "to develop a British Marxist tradition and link the concepts of theory and practice."

He utterly rejects any suggestion that the communists are intolerant and underhand in their approach. He says: "We are not secretly plotting Marxism, but a debate within a pluralist framework. It is not the job of lecturers to tell students they must come to par-

ticular conclusions. That would be abusing their position. We are not out to produce mind-revolutionaries."

The Open University is another target of the Gould report. Two of its courses cause particular concern: schooling and society, which is a course largely taken by teachers; and patterns of inequality, which is a third-level social science course.

The accusation against the schooling and society course is that it presents education purely as a function of the capitalist system and questions whether it is in any way worth while. One of the students taking the course wrote in a letter to *The Times Educational Supplement*: "I can only label it as a packaged recipe for anarchy and chaos, unrelied in its bias by any ray of hope either in the goodness of God or man, nor any desire to the achievement of either."

Mr Geoffrey Esland, lecturer in sociology in the educational studies faculty of the Open University and a member of the course team that produced schooling and society, admits that the theme of the course is

"to question the common idea that education is generally a beneficial activity and to suggest that it is merely reproducing those aspects of existing society which create injustice. It does certainly challenge the predominance of the liberal view of education." He points out that schooling and society is only one of more than 10 Open University courses on education.

He believes it is important to challenge the prevailing attitudes of teachers and present them with radical alternatives. The course questions the use of drugs to control hyperactive children, argues that traditional curricula may lead to sex stereotypes, and presents the view that intelligence testing perpetuates class divisions.

The critics of schooling and society maintain that it deliberately aims to politicize teachers and make them lose faith in their vocation. Mr Esland rejects that. He says: "It is hard to separate the intellectual and political purpose of the course, although the intellectual purpose is uppermost. In Marxist terms all knowledge is political. It would be true to say that

there are aspects of our education system which are regressive, and if teachers collectively come to a decision about them then a change in their practice could be the outcome."

The course specifically focuses on the local educational systems created in response to the recent revolution in Portugal.

Mrs Caroline Cox, former head of the sociology department at North London Polytechnic, has complained both in the Open University's newspaper, *Sesame*, and in the Gould report that the patterns of inequality course is "intellectually dishonest and a platform for blatantly political views." Her complaint is that the course gives the impression that poverty and inequality are peculiar to capitalist societies.

Mr Graham Thompson, chairman of the course team that produced patterns of inequality, says it was deliberately decided to concentrate only on Britain and not discuss the state of communist societies.

He says: "I would not accept that there is a 'neutral'

position on inequality. The position that presents itself as neutral is itself political in that it is defending the existing social organization. There is no such thing as disinterestedness in the sense that it is used by liberal ideologists."

Like Mr Esland, Mr Thompson points out that all Open University courses are produced by teams of 20 or more academics of widely different political persuasions, so there is no possibility of one particular view being able to predominate.

Academic publishers also come under attack in the Gould report for the Marxist bias of their books. The report specifically mentions the now defunct education library of Penguin Books as providing "an honoured imprint for a variety of left-wing materials." It goes on to say: "Routledge and Kegan Paul and Macmillan are two houses which have entered energetically into supplying the Marxist need."

Mr Peter Hopkins, editorial director of Routledge, responds to that accusation by saying: "I thought that was what capitalism was all about."

Mr Shane Shetler, social sciences editor at Macmillan, similarly says that publishers are simply responding to the market in bringing out Marxist works. Both Routledge and Macmillan say their academic lists are balanced and that they publish good scholarship regardless of their political bias.

The attitude to the Gould report's allegations of Marxist bias differs markedly at different levels of the higher education system. In universities it is probably fair to say that it has met with a generally dismissive, even hostile, response.

In polytechnics, colleges of education and among those concerned with teaching vocational subjects there seems to be more disposition to take the allegations seriously. It is there that some agreement is found for the assertion of Professor David Martin, Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics, that "there is a constant digging away at the sense of well-being within our society, and the substitution of an irritated sense that everything is out of joint."

Concluded

## Bob Monkhouse on three more plot charges

Bob Monkhouse, the television performer, faced three more conspiracy charges at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, accusing him of plots dating back to 1966 to defraud film distributing companies.

Mr Monkhouse, aged 49, of Clarges, Eglinton, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, was further remanded on bail until February 7.

The new charges allege that he conspired with others on days dating back to December 1, 1966, to defraud Columbia Warner, 20th Century Fox, the Film Distributors' Association Ltd, Ronald Harris Cinema Services, and other film distributors out of hire fees for 16mm films.

Appearing with Mr Monkhouse on similar charges were other men also remanded on bail to the same date.

They were Anthony Scott, aged 33, a company director, of Woodhurst Road, Acton, London; Ronald V. Sizar, aged 30, an engineer, of 41, Avenue, New Malden, Surrey; and Brian Barnett, aged 40, a film distributor, of Bushy Heath, Hertfordshire. All four also face an original charge of conspiring to cheat and defraud Columbia Warner Film Distributors.

Films quoted in the charges include *A Man for All Seasons*, *Major Dundee*, *The Innocents*, *Let's Make Love*, *Baby Maker*, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, *Dodge City*, and *San Quentin*.

## Burglars left woman of 85 to die, prosecution says

From Our Correspondent

Reading

Two young burglars gagged, bound and blindfolded a woman aged 85 and left her to die, it was alleged at Reading Crown Court yesterday.

Mr David Jeffries, QC, for the prosecution, said they tied her legs and wrists with her dressing-gown cord and used other clothing to gag and blindfold her before stealing her pension book, three rings, savings certificates, and £150 cash.

It was four days before relatives found her body. A pathologist had said she had died of a heart attack suffered some time after the burglary, but had remained alive for at least a day after that, counsel added.

He said Mrs Morelli had been an independent woman who lived alone in her house in Durrington Road, Hackney, east London, because she wanted to look after herself. She normally took precautions before answering the door.

Loray Gilpin, aged 25, her former next-door neighbour, now of no fixed address, and Andrew George, aged 19, of Seven Sisters Road, London, pleaded not guilty to murdering Mrs Morelli. Mr George also denied burgling her home between May 18 and 26.

In an alleged statement, Mr Gilpin admitted breaking in and said: "I am very sorry. I did not mean this to happen. She was a nice lady."

The trial continues today.



Mr Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment (left), watching children at the Diamond Riding Centre for the Handicapped, Carshalton, Surrey.

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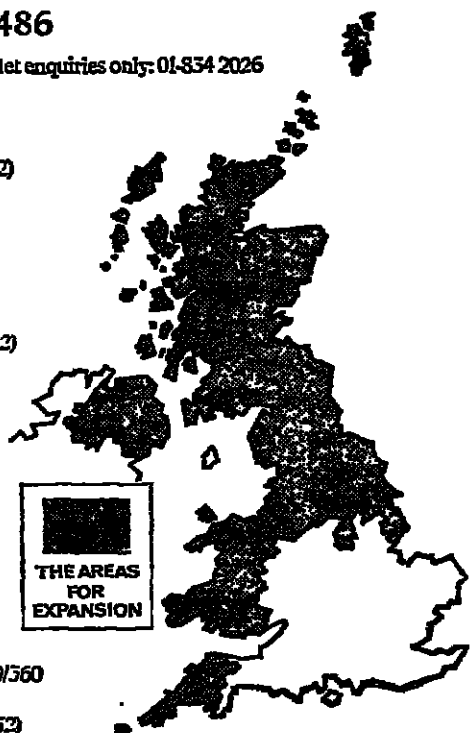
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### £30,000 award to widows of Windscale men

From Our Own Correspondent

Glasgow

Lord Wilson of Langside, QC, former Sheriff Principal of Glasgow and Strathkelvin, and the Very Rev. Dr Andrew Herron, clerk to the Presbytery of Glasgow and a former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, are to be chairmen of the "Scotland is British" campaign.

At a press conference in Glasgow yesterday, Lord Wilson agreed that few Scots would say they were against devolution. The campaign was not quarrelling about the room for improvement in the handling of Scottish affairs by the Government. "Our quarrel, and it is a serious one, is with the proposals contained in the devolution Bill."

Sensible political judgment was that the Bill would make things worse and would set the stage for secession. "It is irrelevant in that it demonstrably can make no contribution to those problems which must concern people: inflation, unemployment, industrial relations, law and order and so on. It is ill considered in that it again demonstrably proceeds not upon considerations of principle or practical wisdom but upon those of ill judged electoral expediency."

He described as frightening the provision empowering the Secretary of State to lay before Parliament a draft order providing for repeal of the Act if it appeared that it should not be brought into effect having regard to answers given in the referendum and all other circumstances.

Dr Herron said he had not met anybody who said in the Bill a recipe for recasting the Scottish nation, culture or economy. "Scotland needs less government, not more," he said.

### New joint chairmen for 'Scotland is British'

From Our Own Correspondent

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### Scottish attitudes on devolution, 2: Shetland

#### 17,000 anxiously eye the oil revenues

From Ronald Faux

Edinburgh

Jobs, the cost of living, and pay all rank higher in the priorities of most Scots than devolution.

It is an unexciting world to the average worker on Clydeside and seems largely unrelated to the root problems of the country. The Scottish remains that if it were not for the threat to United Kingdom party status from the Scottish nationalists, devolution would not have the significance it now commands.

Devolution, in short, has become more important to the political machinery north of the border, in spite of the great constitutional implications of the Bill now before Parliament. A Scottish assembly, the argument goes, would be a way of running Scotland effectively allowing more direct control over the Scottish economy.

Where the economy is in poor condition that may sound attractive, provided the calibre of assembly men is high and the administrators are skilled enough to give better government. Where industry is healthy and a considerable degree of local independence has already been achieved, the appearance of a powerful assembly in Edinburgh seems a sinister challenge.

The council promoted and piloted through Parliament the Zeeland County Council Act, 1974. It was a complex measure that gave the council power to acquire land, set up a reserve fund in which oil revenue profits could be banked, and run the marine facilities at Sullom Voe, the site of wax

will be one of the world's largest oil terminals.

Land speculators were outflanked as Shetland Islands Council convinced the Government that it must have sufficient powers to guard against profiteering and haphazard development and to raise money to invest for the future. The council argued that it was making sacrifices in the national interest. The right reward would be the disturbance payments from the oil companies, which will amount to £20m by the turn of the century.

The council tackled prosperity with great enthusiasm and was determined to ensure that the benefits were not lost in a Scottish assembly.

It was not against devolution or Edinburgh, only anxious that the oil revenues should be shared for the benefit of 17,000 Shetlanders and not distributed among the whole of Scotland. It is feared that the Strathclyde region, short of cash and dominating the assembly, would cut the Shetland's oil wealth.

The Nevis Institute is studying the various constitutional moves Shetland could make, groups of MPs from both sides of the devolution argument have been invited to Lerwick, and councillors discuss the attractions of Shetland becoming like the Channel Islands, the Faroes or the Isle of Man.

Only a minority wish to cut links with Scotland in favour of dealing directly with London. Shetland's Labour Party favours a condominium, with the islands jointly governed by Scotland and England. If Scotland becomes independent, before the council finally

decides to put the question to Shetlanders in a referendum, a delegation will meet Mr Smith, Minister of State in the Privy Council Office in London today. They will seek assurances that Shetland will be safeguarded in the Act against losing status, the oil revenues or rate support grant.

The Shetland Times has attacked the council. The search for ways to protect oil revenues against any marauding tribes, it said, was the growth of a small dog that had got its teeth into an uncommonly large and meaty bone.

In the Orkney Islands there are no such fears. The scale of oil development is smaller and totally contained on the island of Flotta, on the far side of Scaja Flow.

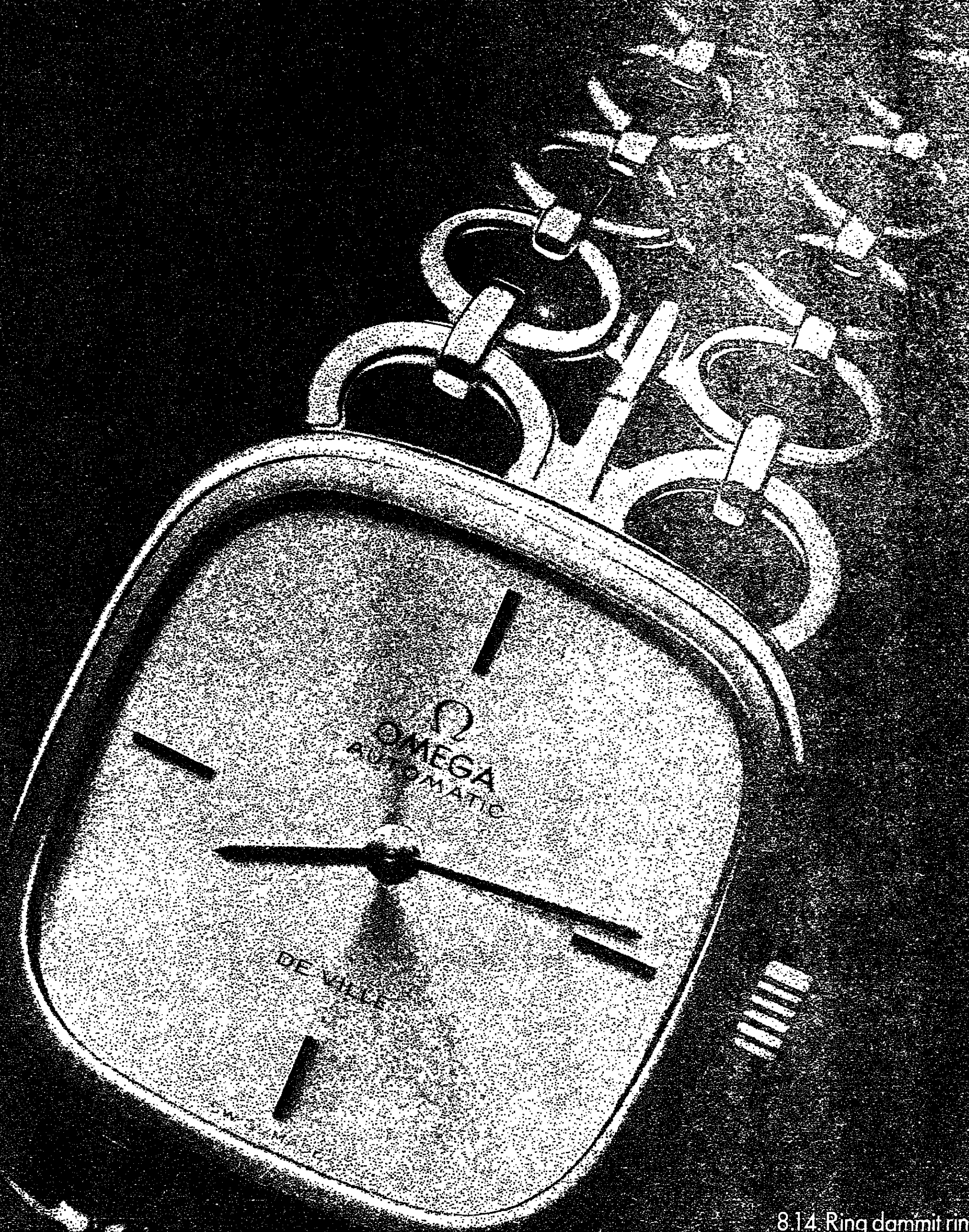
Like Shetland, the Orkneys are in the happy position of considering how to do with several million pounds that could flow into the council coffers during the lifetime of the oil wells. Their main concern is the small dog that had got its teeth into an uncommonly large and meaty bone.

It is those matters that now grip the council rather than examining constitutional options. I did meet a thoughtful-looking Orkney councillor on the pier at Scaja. He knew much about the islands, their Norse legends and the books and some circles that date back to old history. "Devolution is old hat, something of that," he said reflectively. He never explained what.

Concluded



Ω  
OMEGA  
Life, time.



#### 8.14. Ring dammit ring.

If he doesn't call by 8.15, he's not going to call at all.  
Nor me him. Ever.

If he doesn't call by 8.15, it's curling up with the  
Dostoevsky and the large Teachers. Again.  
I look for the millionth time at my Omega.

8.16  
Ahhh to hell with pride.  
"Hello Nick. Guess who?"



## HOME NEWS

# Rate-support grant for the local authorities aims to keep average increase below a tenth

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government  
Correspondent

The Government's rate-support grant to local authorities, to be announced on Friday, will seek to avoid any heavy burden on the ratepayers.

With the continuing need to restrict public spending, local government can expect no chance to expand services. The grant for next year aims to hold rate rises to less than a tenth over the country as a whole; but there are bound to be fluctuations.

This year the fight for shares has been between the cities, represented by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, and the non-metropolitan areas, represented by the Association of County Councils. It appears that the cities have won the argument.

The complicated formula is to be based on the existing regression analysis method, which sets out to relate the level of spending by councils with the incidence of social need. This is what the AMA demanded, what the ACC opposed, and its broad effect is to favour the big cities at the expense of the counties.

The Government, however, has been persuaded that the effect in certain areas might cause serious loss of grant to counties that have suffered in the past two years. Accordingly, the settlement is to include a "safety net" to prevent the grant from falling too far.

For the present year the Government reduced its proportion to cover local revenue spending by 4.5 per cent to 61 per cent. Since 2 per cent of the cut was to be absorbed by the use of council balances, the local authority associations believe the proportion should be increased for next year.

The Government has rejected their argument, pointing out that many local authorities still have considerable balances.

It seems that the Government will keep its proportion at 61 per cent, although a small reduction is more likely than an increase. The use of cash limits has brought a further discipline to local authorities, and has proved a success, if sometimes harsh, instrument. For next year the limit will be fixed in line with the Government's pay policy, and that will inevitably mean that local authorities will take as much as they can from the Government in negotiating the pay of the firemen and the million manual workers in their employment.

One decision anxiously awaited concerns London. Because of its high ratable values it would normally be entitled to a share of the grant considered disproportionately high. Clawback is a device used to take back some of that grant, and for this year's settlement the level of clawback was doubled.

## AVERAGE DOMESTIC RATE PAYMENTS 1977-78

Authority (M denotes metropolitan)		£	£
Westminster (M)	278.84	Colchester	107.70
Camden (M)	258.44	Exeter	102.91
Elmbridge (Surrey)	223.04	Derby	101.04
Three Rivers (Herts)	209.49	Liverpool (M)	100.00
Manchester (M)	148.00	Harrowgate	93.84
Chester	135.63	Lincoln	93.52
Nuneaton	119.76	Cardiff	90.15
Newcastle upon Tyne (M)	118.00	Lancaster	89.78
Birmingham (M)	115.00	Durham	87.26
Salisbury	112.14	Swansea	85.24
Bath	110.41	Carlisle	73.87
Ipswich	110.17	Carmarthen	47.00
Malden	108.83	Montgomery	32.98

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# 'Irreparable damage to health from noise'

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs  
Correspondent

The cavernous recesses of Wembley Conference Centre are reverberating this week with the often sporadic sound of 600 leagued gentlemen earnestly discussing noise. The event is an international symposium organized by the Institute of Acoustics on behalf of the Federation of Acoustical Societies of Europe. It has attracted leading members of the World Health Organization, ministers of European governments, and scientists from industry and from research and development institutes.

One message delivered loud and clear at the outset, by Professor Gerd Jensen, of the Johannes Gutenberg University, West Germany, was "noise can damage your health". Excessive noise, he said, could irreparably damage the inner ear, but lower levels could cause uneasiness, annoyance, shock, fear and "other negative associations and strong feelings of discomfort".

Research had shown, the professor said, that in some countries as many as half the population were complaining of annoyance or disturbance by noise. Nor does noise affect only the ears. It has effects on the vegetative nervous system, and hence on skin conductivity, the pupils, the secretion of sweat and saliva, and the operations of the bowel and the stomach. These effects could not be called dangerous, but initiated stresses that might make illness worse.

It is not noise that is unhealthy, Professor Jensen suggested, so much as the emotional and cognitive reactions, and the stress reaction patterns. European responses have varied widely. Spain, according to Senator A. Garcia Sanchez, almost completely lacks legislation about noise.

In Holland, by contrast, the Government is contemplating noise rehabilitation programmes for industry, traffic and aircraft costs millions of guilders. Vogel of the Ministry of the Interior, reported, the Government has made decrees against motorized lawn mowers to the extent of making absolutely illegal the moving of lawns with noisy machines at night. Only quiet models will be permitted for use in the evenings after 7 pm.

Present in the London borough where the symposium is taking place, has other problems, according to a paper presented by Councilor Iain Roxburgh, chairman of the local housing committee.

Present British legislation, he said, "barely scratches the surface of the problem of traffic noise". The noise levels at the front doors of houses facing the North Circular Road, running through Brent, would not be tolerated if they were caused by industry near the houses.

Brent council had also found the Control of Pollution Act totally ineffective in dealing with noise in public places. Nor is it only humans who suffer. Mr D. G. J. Fanshawe, of Mullard, reported that research carried out with the Medical Research Council had shown that ultrasonic emissions from remote controllers for television sets could have severely disturbing effects on pet dogs and cats.

## CBI CONFERENCE/BRIGHTON

# Industry doffs its cap to the housewife

Hard-pressed housewives have an example to the rest of the nation and the trade unions, Lord Watkinson, president, said when winding up the first national conference of the Confederation of British Industry, at Brighton.

If any group of workers had a special case it was the housewives, he said. "There is no union to speak for them or for their children. If they are prepared to go on, rising prices and all the rest, exercising moderation in the national interest for a little longer, should be not all following the example and should the trade union movement not follow their example too?"

Lord Watkinson, who was given a standing ovation, also had a tribute for the "overworked and underestimated" industrialists.

One of the speakers who has spoken to our conference who is not in the most accurate sense of the term a worker-director. Will Callaghan please note? All of us put in hours of work that would put most trade unionists to shame; only our wives know how company directors feel.

The nation should therefore take account of the fact that there is a quality and ability of British management. It is the managers who provide the very basis of our state: the cost of health and education; the capital that

employed under the law there should be at least some minimum standards or rules binding on them.

The freedom of the individual was threatened by the growing pressure for recognised trade unions to have the right to select sole representatives for certain functions irrespective of whether unions had been recognised to represent all grades of employees. Such a "single channel" representation was unacceptable.

Industrial action was the final weapon in a worker's negotiating armoury. Could businessmen really continue to allow that unfettered weapon to be used so indiscriminately?

The CBI did not feel there was much wrong with the law on picketing, but its implementation put a heavy burden on the police.

The Employment Protection Act provided a procedure for claiming improvements in terms and conditions of employment in line with the general level of terms and conditions in the same trade or industry in a prescribed district. The law pointed out to the Government, the dangers of that provision and their worst fears had been realised. Some form of modification must be obtained.

Mr Whitfield said they must realise the importance of additional legislative requirements at least for some time. Overburdened employers desperately needed a model of the industry's guided zeal of those seeking to swamp them in new laws before they had adjusted to the consequences of their last efforts.

In principle the CBI supported the right of an individual to join or not to join a union. But one of the closed shop's evils and experience showed they would continue to exist even if outlawed.

But there were certain standards beyond which the CBI was not prepared to move. It was firmly against the closed shop, and if post-entry closed shop had to be conceded there must be certain safeguards, for



Lord Watkinson: "One ill-judged step will bring the whole rock face tumbling down on us all."

provides jobs and the amenities of life; the exports on which we depend for our very existence."

As the conference employers had found a voice. The main lesson from the day and a half of debate was that Britain must stop the slide to inflation-prone mediocrity before it turns into an

avalanche that will destroy us all.

"I know that a great many groups of trade unionists believe that they have a powerful case for more pay. But I hope they will listen when we say that with inflation at its present precarious level it needs only one ill-judged step on the mountain of rising

costs to bring the whole rock face tumbling down on us all."

"If excessive pay increases force up the prices we will, we shall sell fewer and fewer British goods in world markets and more and more of our fellow workers will be out of job."

# Legislative changes sought on union power

The Confederation of British Industry's conference at Brighton yesterday gave overwhelming support to a resolution urging the Government to take specific measures to industrial relations law that would avoid conflict with the unions and free business to create wealth.

Only a few dissenting voices were raised against the resolution, which asserted the need for a more equal balance of bargaining power between employer and employee, clearer accountability by trade unions for their actions, and greater recognition of the freedom of the individual and the profitability of business.

Mr Ashley Weston, president of the Engineering Employers' Federation, said employers were not looking for a return to the status quo.

But they were becoming extremely nervous of the future in the industrial relations field unless some existing legislation, the balance of power had swung too far from the employers to the trade unionists.

Mr Whitfield referred to the proposals set out in CBI's policy document, *Britain Means Business*, which formed the basis of the conference discussions. It stated that the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) should be seen to operate as an impartial and independent body, whereas at present its terms of reference were biased towards the unions.

It was indefensible, he said, that the right to refer a dispute to the employment tribunal should be available only to unions; employers must have similar statutory rights.

What was impossible to have successful collective bargaining unless trade union leaders were properly represented by their members. Unions should have a say in all decisions, and if post-entry closed shop had to be conceded there must be certain safeguards, for

example, for non-union employees and genuine conscientious objectors.

Mr Norman Lamond, director of the Confederation of British Industry, was loudly applauded when he called for a ban on picketers of more than 20 people, a ban on sympathy strikes, and a ban on social security payments only for official strikers, and a review of payments through PAYE at the end of a strike.

"We are in grave danger of sounding like a bunch of Colonel Blimps, harking back to the good old days when we could greet the faces of the poor," he said. But it was essential to convince the public that the bosses were reasonable and honest people.

In the field of industrial relations that commits us inevitably to the condemnation of Mr George Ward, of Grunwick fame. Whatever the provocation and whatever the law may say, any manager who hunches behind a closed shop is the enemy of the public.

But we must not sit idly by while the law is used to the bully boys. Most unions were well run but there are sufficient examples of mismanagement to seek to seek a bipartisan approach by the political parties with government, management and unions to build a permanent and productive relationship in Britain.

The prime responsibility for putting the country on its feet by a radical improvement in industrial relations and a clearer appreciation of economic reality must be squarely shouldered by the unions. They were the only group in a position to take the necessary initiative and to bridge the communications gap with the work force.

From the unions they expected leadership, strict observance of agreements and avoidance of unofficial strikes. They also wanted the unions to be more effective in promoting their members' interests.

Let us have control of unruly mobs, whether they be trade unionists, left-wing demonstrators or National Front rallies." The public had seen in Grunwick scenes that could be described as the totally unacceptable face of trade unionism.

Summing up the debate, Mr Terence Beckett, chairman and chief executive of the Ford Motor Company, said: "We are the chaps with the buckets and shovels who come along after the Grand Panacea or the Lord Mayor's coach and clear up after the legislators. We are getting a little tired of it. Industrial relations are a serious matter. We need to seek a bipartisan approach by the political parties with government, management and unions to build a permanent and productive relationship in Britain."

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# Children do IRA work, SDLP man says

From Christopher Walker  
Belfast

The increasing tendency of the Provisional IRA to rely on schoolchildren for terrorist attacks is causing concern in Ulster, particularly among members of the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

An indication of the extent to which IRA recruiting is being concentrated in Roman Catholic schools was given last week in the cathedral city of Armagh, where 13 young people aged between 15 and 18 were charged at special courts with serious offences, varying from attempted murder to arson.

Three were girl pupils at the school where Mr Seamus Mallon, a leading member of the SDLP, is a teacher. Yesterday on Irish radio, he condemned the IRA. "The god-fathers of violence are hiding behind these young people," he said.

Mr Mallon, who recently took over as chairman of the SDLP's Constituency Representative Council, added: "While these young people were being arrested, being interrogated, while they were being charged and while their parents were going through the torment of all that, the god-fathers were sitting quite safe out of the jurisdiction."

During the interview Mr Mallon, an Armagh city councillor, went out of his way to deny recent suggestions made by two Roman Catholic priests that some of the young people had been ill treated in police custody.

Among many Protestant politicians Mr Mallon has long been regarded as one of the more extreme members of the SDLP. The strenuous attack on the IRA and his unequivocal defence of the Royal Ulster Constabulary against local allegations are likely to improve the atmosphere for new talks about the interim devolution, due to take place in the next few weeks.

# Export licences withheld from two Canaletto

By Our Arts Reporter

Two paintings by Canaletto, "Warwick Castle: the east front" and "Warwick Castle: the east front from the courtyard" together valued at more than £500,000, have had their export licences withheld for six months by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Minister of State, Department of Education and Science, who is responsible for the arts, has accepted the committee's recommendation.

If a public collection in Britain offers to buy either of the paintings for £270,000 by midnight on May 11, 1978, the export licence for that painting will not be granted.

The paintings, four Canaletto altogether, are understood to have been sold to a buyer in the United States.

# Wealthy pensioner tricked into marriage, court told

From Our Correspondent  
Preston

A wealthy Blackpool pensioner was tricked into a marriage that was part of a plot to get his life savings of £25,000, the prosecution alleged at Preston Crown Court, Lancashire, yesterday.

Jean Forbes, aged 22, was introduced to Mr Frederick Houlton, aged 65, as a rich heiress with a house of her own and a £2,000 car. Mr Houlton was also promised £6,000 for marrying her.

In fact, Miss Forbes was unemployed, and helped to look after donkeys on the beach at Blackpool, it was stated.

The prosecution said the architect of the marriage was Carol Ann Hodgson, aged 21, who, with her boy friend, had befriended Mr Houlton and then kept him a virtual prisoner in their flat. Eventually he gave way to threats and trans-

ferred £11,000 to Miss Hodgson.

Mr Richard Henriques, for the Crown, said Miss Hodgson wanted the rest of his capital and decided to get a girl to marry him. On the way to the wedding at Blackpool Register Office Miss Forbes had produced an attaché case full of £5 notes. Mr Houlton counted £2,000 and then gave up. There was little doubt, counsel added, that that money was his own.

Miss Forbes, Miss Hodgson and her mother, Mrs Pamela Ivy Riches, aged 45, all of Leacock Gate, Blackpool, were charged with conspiring to defraud Mr Houlton of his money.

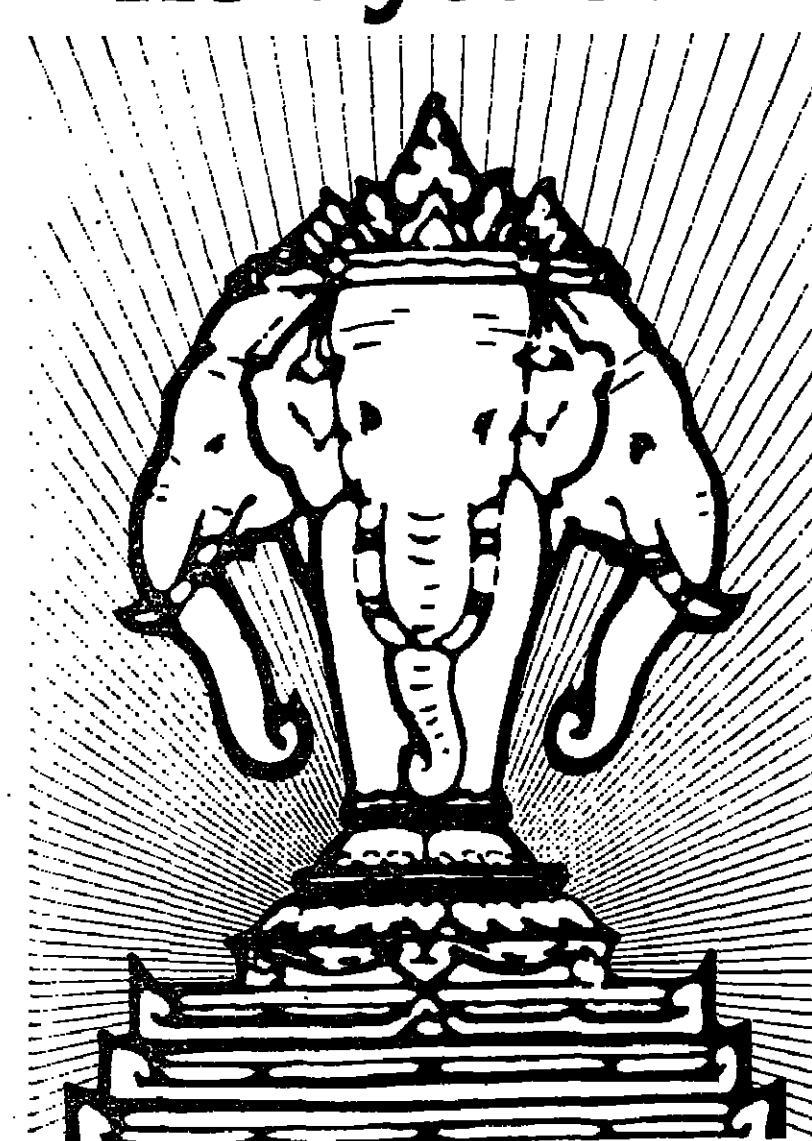
Miss Hodgson and Mr Dixon also deny demanding money with menaces and detaining Mr Houlton against his will. The trial continued today.

Mr Houlton had also found the Control of Pollution Act totally ineffective in dealing with noise in public places.

Nor is it only humans who suffer. Mr D. G. J. Fanshawe, of Mullard, reported that research carried out with the Medical Research Council had shown that ultrasonic emissions from remote controllers for television sets could have severely disturbing effects on pet dogs and cats.

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# Worker-participation welcomed on employers' terms

A call for companies to banish the idea of worker-participation in making decisions was made by Lord Caldecote, chairman of Delia Morris, when he said, "It is not only many managers but many workers who are moving too slowly, if at all."

He was making a resolution opposing the Government's plans, outlined in the Bullock report, to impose worker-directors on company boards but support the CBI's policy to a more gradual build-up of participation agreements.

The conference approved both the resolution and the CBI policy document proposals on involvement and participation in industry, which contained that the Bullock report was not about participation but about trade union control.

"The CBI position is clear. It has never believed that any director ought to be imposed on a company by the trade unions or by the Government. My own view is that virtually every-one wants to be consulted and to know that his views are properly considered, but there is no need for a firm decision quickly in the light of all the circumstances and consultation, and to be responsible for its outcome."

Directors should be concerned with the long-term prosperity of the company as a whole; there was an inherent danger in any of them representing sectional interests.

But could there be advantages in voluntary arrangements perhaps for employee-nominated directors, to suit the needs of an individual company?" he asked. Should a participation agreement be a formal negotiating document or should it be more a reflection of a company's employment policy?

He supported the CBI view, in principle, on the advantage of formal agreements, but there was room for flexibility, particularly in large companies, between central and local agreement.

Mr Peter Nicholson, chairman of the CBI's northern regional council, said he was not totally against worker-director representatives but he opposed the

idea of their being forced on his company.

The most damaging result would be total disruption of the morale of senior management; not only would many managers be removed from the board but any senior manager who was worth promoting to the board would see his chance virtually disappear.

"Instead we should be saddled on the board with people untrained in anything but disruption, and at the end of the day would, the employees be any better off?"

Mr Dick Atkinson, of Taylor Woodrow Ltd, opposed any form of industrial participation or consultation imposed by legislation, and suggested a progressive voluntary scheme over the next four years. Flexibility was possible only if arrangements were on a closely voluntary basis. They must not fall into the trap of accepting the less outrageous recommendations of the Bullock report under a sense of relief that the report was not to be implemented in full.

Mr Michael Bullock, deputy chief executive of James Neil Holdings Ltd, called for political and fiscal programmes that would encourage the growth of employee share-ownership schemes. He said 27 million people already had an interest in the equity of British industry, 27 million capitalists by proxy. "Let us now create them capitalists in their own right."

Lord Powdrell, president of Tube Investments Ltd, said it was essential to make worker-participation a reality. We must involve people. What most people want is the right to have their say on matters which affect their daily lives. They are only marginally interested in two-tier boards and worker-participation. Most people are indifferent or actively hostile to the majority Bullock report."

It was up to employers to take advantage of that hostility. Participation agreements, flexible and tailored to suit the individual needs of companies, could play a big part in improving industrial efficiency.

Mr Rowland Wright, chairman of ICI, said the ideas contained in the Bullock report would never have been conceived by anyone who had to run a successful company and operate it in the teeth of fierce international competition. What management got back from employees by way of response was in direct proportion to the effort they put by way of consultation.

The participation process had to be operated at every level. Mr J. Campbell Fraser, managing director of Dunlop Holdings Ltd, summing up the debate, said there was still the barrier of "us and them" to overcome before they could achieve meaningful participation and involvement. "We have to ensure that the real facts of industrial life are better appreciated by the public and the community at large. But the response that we get from the people in industry lies with you in this hall."

Leading article, page 19  
Business Diary, page 27

# IF YOU SMELL GAS-RING US

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- \* Don't operate electrical switches-on or off.
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- \* Then check that you haven't left the gas on and unlit-or that a pilot light has not gone out.

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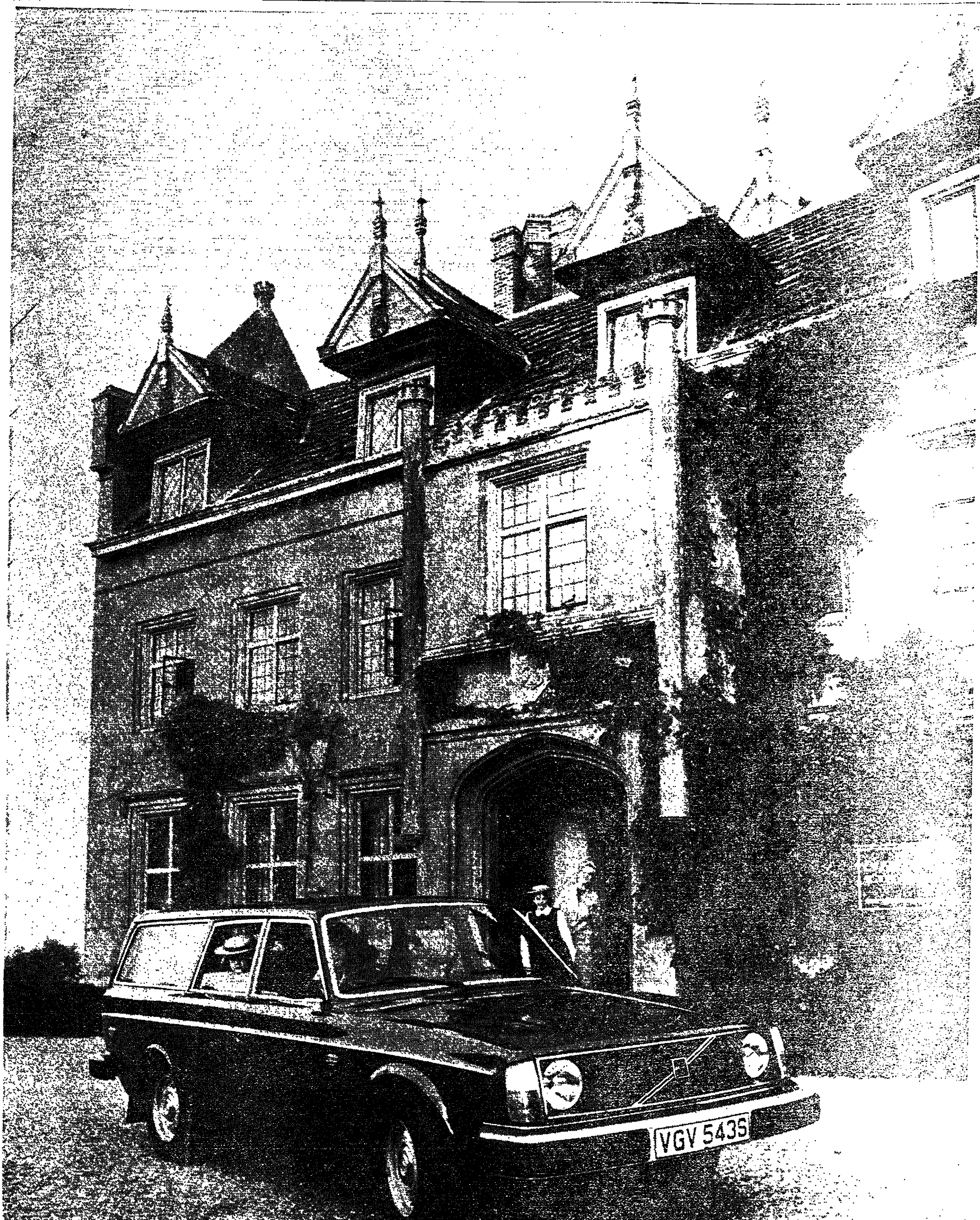
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## OVERSEAS

## Gun battles flare again in Ethiopian capital

Nairobi, Nov. 15.—Gunfire crackled at noon today in Ethiopia's capital of Addis Ababa and diplomats there suspected that a bloody power struggle was going on.

The envoys said the most likely explanation for the latest political violence in Ethiopia was that it indicates a struggle for power in and outside the Dergue, the ruling 80-man military council led by Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile-Mariam, a Marxist.

The vice-chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel Amatu Abate, was executed last Saturday as a counter-revolutionary.

On Sunday, "counter revolutionaries" shot dead an officer close to the Dergue, Lieutenant Solomon Legesse, Addis Ababa radio said. The Marxist rules then called for "red revolutionary terror" to strike back at their foes.

Addis Ababa today announced that four counter-revolutionaries were killed and 15 captured in a city precinct by a local militia force.

Gun battles after dusk are now a daily event in Addis Ababa and assassinations in broad daylight are increasing, according to diplomats in the city. The targets range from advisers to figures in the Dergue.

Violence at the top in Ethiopia tends to unleash feuding and score-settling at a lower level, which the military government often describes as "cleansing the revolutionary camp".—Reuter.



The Shah, wiping tears from his eyes during Mr Carter's speech of welcome. With him is Empress Farah.

## Shah caught in tear gas at White House

From David Cross

Washington, Nov. 15

Tear gas drifted across the White House lawn to the discomfort of President Carter today as he officially welcomed the Shah of Iran to Washington.

Several hundred angry young opponents of the Shah, wielding sticks and shouting slogans, broke through a thin line of policemen separating them from a much larger group of the Shah's supporters, who were standing on platforms to watch the ceremony.

When the demonstrators—

mainly students—set upon the largely peaceful and affluent-looking group of supporters, police fired tear gas grenades to keep the two sides apart.

They did not succeed. As the supporters fled screaming from the demonstrators, several policemen and members of the pro-Shah group were badly cut and bruised in scuffles—the most violent Washington had witnessed since the anti-Vietnam demonstrations.

Some children fainted and others were separated from their parents as they ran away.

On the other side of the

White House a much larger group of protesters hurled posters and stones at police who were trying to separate them from a pro-Shah group. When several demonstrators broke through the police cordon, the supporters ran, dropping their banners and posters on the ground. Later the demonstrators burnt effigies of the Shah and released balloons depicting him as a puppet of the American Administration.

The trouble began when a helicopter, thought to be carrying the Shah, approached the White House to a salute of guns

and music. The helicopter veered away at the last minute and the Shah arrived instead by car. Until then the anti-Shah group, who had begun to assemble in the early hours of the morning, had limited their protests to chants and the waving of placards.

Mr Carter, who winced when the tear gas reached him, welcomed his guest as "a long time friend of our country".

The President is counting on the Shah's influence to hold down oil prices in the new round of talks among oil producing countries.

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## Cubans leave Somalia: Russians go today

Mogadishu, Nov. 15.—All Cubans living in Somalia left the country today less than 48 hours after the Somali Government broke diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Somalia decided on Sunday to break relations with Cuba and to end its 1974 treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. It accused the Soviet Union and Cuba of planning a joint attack on Somalia from Ethiopia.

Soviet military and civilian advisers, believed to number about 1,500, are expected to begin leaving tomorrow. Airport sources said that they would be flown out on special aircraft.

The Cubans, including 10 women and two small children, appeared to have little baggage with them. The Cuban Embassy was closed and barred, with armed guards at its gates.

Somalia will boycott all meetings of the Organization of African Unity held in Addis Ababa, where it has its headquarters, the Somali News Agency reported today. Mr Abderrahman Barre, the Foreign Minister has informed Mr William Eteki Mboumoua, the OAU secretary-general, of the decision.

Moscow.—The Soviet Union said today that Somalia had renounced the friendship treaty between the two countries because Moscow refused to support it in stirring up a "fratricidal war" with Ethiopia.

Tass said that the decision showed that "chauvinist expansionist moods prevailed over common sense inside the Somali Government".

It added: "The Somali Government took its action unilaterally and in conditions of factual war it had unleashed against neighbouring Ethiopia."

"Essentially behind this action lies dissatisfaction because the Soviet Union did not support Somalia's territorial claims on a neighbouring state and refused to facilitate the stirring of fratricidal war in the Horn of Africa."

Peking.—China today welcomed Somalia's renunciation of the treaty with the Soviet Union and saw it as a victory for Africa and the developing countries.

News of the Somali action was splashed across the foreign page of the Peking People's Daily, and was accompanied by a commentary by the New China news agency praising the Somalis for their "dauntless will" in safeguarding the country's sovereignty and independence and their opposition to interference by the superpowers.

There was no mention in the commentary, however, of Somalia's decision to break diplomatic relations with Cuba.

It said that "by taking this daring action, Somalia has stripped off the mask of friendship and assistance of the Soviet Union and inflicted a heavy blow at Soviet hegemonism". Khartoum: President Nimeiry of Sudan said last night that the Soviet Union should pull out of Africa "or face forcible expulsion" as recently happened in Somalia and before that in other states.

In his monthly broadcast he told the Soviet Communist Party that the success of the Russian revolution "depended on Soviet soil: it was not forced on Soviet soil from abroad".

Backward peoples could not be helped by exporting arms to them but by providing factories, tools, farm equipment and technology. Exports of arms were "an assassination of the principles of peace, justice and non-alignment". — Reuter and Agence France Presse.

## Korchmoi delays Spassky match

Belgrade, Nov. 15.—The world chess championship semifinal match between Viktor Korchmoi and Boris Spassky will start next Monday instead of tomorrow as had been planned.

Korchmoi, who injured his hand in a car accident recently, asked for a postponement today and Spassky agreed.—Agence France-Presse.

## Chinese aid for Malta harbour

Valletta, Nov. 15.—China is to help Malta build a breakwater at the site where a new harbour and industrial estate are planned. Mr Micallef, the Prime Minister, has told Parliament.

After returning last week from his third official visit to China in five years, he said the Chinese would also build two factories on the island.—Reuter.

## Philip of Macedon's grave 'discovered' near Salonika

Salonika, Nov. 15.—Archaeologists have discovered a royal grave in the village of Vergina 40 miles west of Salonika which they believe belonged to Philip of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great, sources at the University of Salonika said yesterday.

Within a mound 40 feet high and 300 feet in diameter, it was filled with "archaeological items and artifacts of immense value," the sources said.

A group of archaeologists from the university discovered the grave earlier this month in the village, while working under the direction of Professor Manolis Andronikos.

"The only thing I can say is that the finds of Vergina are of utmost archaeological value. The university will make an announcement on the discovery within the next few days. This is not a personal matter, but a national one," Dr Andronikos said.

Persons who saw the grave said it was covered by 20,000 tons of soil, was full of gold, ivory and wooden items, surrounding a golden container with the bones of the dead.

"The bones were clean, washed with wine and perfume and laid with care inside the container," the witnesses said. Among the other finds were a breastplate made of silver, a

helmet, a sword and leg guards. There are things here to fill a whole museum", one of them declared.

Next to the Beehive-shaped tomb archaeologists said they found a small ancient temple, built at the same time the grave was dug—around 350 BC. Thieves had plundered the temple and all it contained was stolen.

The tomb's entrance was closed off by a marble slab and over it was a 24-by-15 foot mural depicting a hunting scene.

Archaeologists said the finds at Vergina are important from the historical point of view because they indicate that Ages, the first capital of the kingdom of Macedonia and burial place for the ruling kings, was at Vergina. Until now that had not been established.

Philip of Macedon, was the strongest potentate of his time. He not only defeated all Greek states and united them under his rule, but he prepared a powerful army for a campaign against Persia in order to free the Greek states of Asia Minor from Persian rule.

Philip was assassinated under mysterious circumstances to 336 BC and was succeeded by Alexander, then 20, who carried out his father's plan against the Persian empire.—UPI.

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## OVERSEAS

### Contradictory police evidence exposed in Biko inquest hearing

From Nicholas Ashford  
Pretoria, Nov 15

The second day of the inquest into the death of Steve Biko, the South African Black Consciousness leader, concluded today with a number of contradictions in police evidence being exposed by counsel for the Biko family, Mr Sydney Kentridge.

During the day the police were also accused of trying to "smear" Mr Biko after his death by suggesting that he was planning revolutionary acts.

Most of today's proceedings were taken up with a cross-examination of Major Harold Snyman, a Port Elizabeth security policeman, who yesterday had told the court how Mr Biko had been involved in a struggle with five of his interrogators.

Altogether Major Snyman spent six hours in the witness box much of the time being subjected to close and persistent questioning by Mr Kentridge. However, at no stage did he become flustered, even when it was demonstrated that some of the statements he had made under oath were incorrect.

Shortly after the inquest resumed this morning Major Snyman, who headed the team interrogating Mr Biko before his death, said Mr Biko had "wounded his head against a wall during a struggle in Port Elizabeth security police headquarters on September 7."

Asked which part of his head he had hit against the wall, Major Snyman replied: "The back of it. Mr Biko had also suffered a cut lip in the struggle but had no other noticeable injuries."

According to the post-mortem report Mr Biko died as a result of a head injury, indicated by a laceration on the left forehead. Major Snyman said there were no signs of any such injuries after the struggle.

Mr Kentridge pointed out that there were 28 affidavits made by policemen and doctors to support the inquest, but in not one of them was mention made of Mr Biko falling with his head against the wall.

Major Snyman was then asked by Mr Prins, the magistrate presiding over the inquest, whether he had actually seen Mr Biko bump his head against the wall. He replied that he did not see it himself as he was involved in the struggle. It was possible therefore, he said, that he did not bump his head against the wall? Mr Prins asked: "That is so," replied Major Snyman.

After this admission Mr Kentridge said: "I don't think there is any value in your statement."

He suggested instead that the injury which led to Mr Biko's death possibly took place on the night before the struggle, when Major Snyman was not on duty. At that time Mr Biko was being held alone in handcuffs and leg-irons at the

security police headquarters, guarded by three policemen led by Lieutenant Wilken, whose name is not among those who have been called to give evidence.

Later Major Snyman said he believed Mr Biko had suddenly gone "berserk" and attacked his interrogators because he was suddenly confronted with information which would destroy his public image as a man of peace and show him up as a revolutionary.

Under cross-examination by Mr P. R. van Rooyen, counsel representing the police involved in the case, Major Snyman claimed that Mr Biko was involved in efforts to set up a new revolutionary movement in South Africa. It was to be called the United Revolutionary Front and would comprise the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC), the Black People's Convention (BPC) and the Unity Movement.

Mr Biko had gone to Cape Town shortly before his arrest to discuss forming this organization. There would be an internal wing for recruiting people to send overseas for training, and another wing abroad.

Major Snyman also said he had proof that Mr Biko was involved in drafting and distributing a revolutionary pamphlet in Port Elizabeth. The pamphlet, which he read to the court, urged black students, workers and parents to show solidarity and to take a stand.

No mercy should be shown to collaborators, who should be killed. When there were bodies lying in the streets, then there would be freedom.

Major Snyman said the police had confronted Mr Biko with evidence of his authorship of the pamphlet, together with sworn statements by a number of his friends about his revolutionary activities at this point that Mr Biko launched his attack.

Mr Kentridge interposed to say that the statements which the police claimed to have existed at the time as they were all dated after his death. The magistrate ruled that they were not admissible as evidence, although he accepted the pamphlet.

Mr Kentridge said the claims that the statements had been laid before Mr Biko were a "smear" prepared after his death. He accused Major Snyman of "trying to convict a dead man, a man who could not be charged when he was alive. You have smeared him after death in order to protect yourself."

Captain Sibert, another Port Elizabeth security policeman, who was among the five who overpowered Mr Biko, said he was unsure that any documents had been shown to Mr Biko during interrogation. Asked if he had seen Mr Biko being confronted with any documents, he replied: "Not that I am aware."

### Cape Town police fire on crowd and wound six

Cape Town, Nov 15.—The police today fired into a crowd of about 1,000 angry blacks near here, wounding six including a woman.

The violence erupted at about noon when youths from Cape Town's segregated Langa township took to the streets, stoning vehicles and setting others alight.

By mid-afternoon strong police patrols had sealed off Langa, a black township of 100,000, nine miles north-east of the city.

Major-General T. M. Bisschoff, the divisional police commissioner, described the situation as "grave". He said the wounded, taken to hospital under police guard, were not in a serious condition. A policeman was also reported to be injured.

There was no immediate indication of the cause of the violence, which followed sporadic stoning of cars yesterday on the main arterial road which runs between the black townships. The windcreens of at least three cars driven by whites were smashed.

The unrest coincided with the opening of a new police station in the township of Langa, the site of the inquest into the death of Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader.

Witnesses said the trouble began after Bantu Administration Board officials combed the townships saying they were searching for layabouts. Blacks gathered after several people were detained. When the police arrived, they were greeted by hail of stones from a crowd of 1,000. —AP.

### Legal challenge to Pakistan treason trial

From Our Correspondent  
Islamabad, Nov 15

Abdul Wali Khan, president of the outlawed National Awami Party and leader of the Opposition in the 1972 National Assembly, has challenged the legality of his continued detention and trial in Hyderabad jail.

Sind High Court today admitted a habeas corpus petition for regular hearing filed on behalf of Abdul Wali Khan and two others who have been on trial on charges of anti-state conspiracy and treason since 1975.

The National Awami Party officials are among 40 accused persons who are ordered to stand trial for treason by Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister. They include former governors of Baluchistan and North West Frontier Provinces.

Mr Wali Khan in his petition maintained that the special court as constituted after Justice Abdul Jabbar left it was unconstitutional and the trial was illegal. He further maintained that the detention of the others facing trial was similarly illegal. The High Court will hear the petition later this month.

It has been widely reported for some time that the government of General Zia might dissolve the special court and put the accused on trial in regular courts.

### More US pressure will ignite bitter political conflict

From William Frankel  
New York, Nov 15

A recent public opinion poll on the Middle East published by the New York Times and CBS shows that the American people are losing their confidence in President Carter. While 55 per cent still believe he is doing a good job, the figure was 66 per cent in January.

As for his Middle East policy, which has been seen as exerting American influence on its Israeli client, 24 per cent cited the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) as being responsible for the continuing conflict, 23 per cent Russia, 16 per cent the Arabs and only 8 per cent Israel.

In the November issue of the influential magazine *Commentary*, two distinguished academic figures, Professor Seymour Lipset and Professor William Ogburn, said the Middle East was the most volatile area in the world since 1948 to the summer of 1977.

Their first finding is that at no time has any poll revealed more support for the Arabs than for Israel. Moreover, from the point of view of present United States Government attitudes, the conclusion from the Yankelovich polls between 1975 and 1977 that American opinion generally has grown increasingly sympathetic to Israel's refusal to negotiate with the PLO.

On the question of the occupied territories, the two authors said that the "public feeling that Israel is holding them unfairly and should just give them back. Nor does any survey data suggest that the American public takes the view that it is very difficult to negotiate with the Arabs. The attitude which others must accept."

At the same time however he called on the Jewish leaders not to allow "intemperance or fanaticism" to endanger what he described as "the best opportunity for a permanent Middle East peace in our lifetime."

Last Sunday, *The New York Times* carried the words of its leader space to discussing "The Jews and Jimmy Carter". It defined the problem as being

### Tension among American Jews over Carter policy on Israel

From William Frankel  
New York, Nov 15

become the religion of American Jews. The most remarkable of the statistics in the *Commentary* article is the statement attributed to Mr Pat Cadell, President Carter's own pollster, that, outside the South, Jews constitute 7 per cent of those who do vote though they are only 3 per cent of the population. This is because more of them go to the trouble to vote.

Close to 90 per cent of American Jews vote in national elections compared with 53 per cent of the electorate as a whole. "If one adds to this figure (7 per cent) the additional 20 per cent or so of non-Jews whom opinion polls show to be as passionately pro-Israel as the Jews it is clear that Israel enjoys the backing of one of the largest veto groups in the country", the article says.

"Hence actions which antagonize or contradict the Jewish opinion can affect the electoral fortunes of many candidates, including those running for President."

Already Mr Mark Siegel, a member of the President's staff, has reported that "there is a tension in the (Jewish) community that is almost electric." Mr Jody Powell, the Presidential press secretary, has said that "this could be the biggest, most sensitive political problem we face in 1980."

Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, has had numerous meetings with the Jewish leadership in recent weeks. The President has reaffirmed Israel's willingness to negotiate with the PLO, "an attitude which others must accept."

At the same time however he called on the Jewish leaders not to allow "intemperance or fanaticism" to endanger what he described as "the best opportunity for a permanent Middle East peace in our lifetime."

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### Frogmen seize three from Spanish fishing boat

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, Nov 15

Part of the Spanish fleet was patrolling off the coast of Las Palmas today when a Spanish fishing vessel from the Canary Islands was attacked and three of its crew captured. According to reports this evening, most of the fleet's frigates are in the area.

The fishing vessel *Saia*, with a crew of 15, was attacked on Sunday night by a rubber launch with three frogmen in it. The vessel was hit with machine gun bullets and mortar bombs were thrown at it. The frogmen boarded the boat and took three of the crew.

Suspicion fell on the Polisario front, the guerrilla force in the former Spanish colony, but there was no confirmation from the organization. The attack came on the second anniversary of the Madrid agreement under which Spain agreed to cede its colony to Morocco and Mauritania. The Polisario

is holding hostage eight Frenchmen captured in Mauritania last month.

Since the death of General Franco, the Polisario, which is supported by Algeria, has continued its struggle for independence. It has brought production at the phosphate mine at Bou Crair almost to a halt as a result of strikes.

Spain rid itself of its colony a week before General Franco died. The left in Spain has criticized the decision and has called for the agreement to be revoked.

The Canary Islands fishing fleet is an important part of the island's economy and one of its traditional fishing grounds has always been off Western Sahara. In March another fishing boat was attacked in the same area and the Polisario claimed responsibility.

Last night in Las Palmas demonstrators supporting the Polisario marched to the Moroccan consulate.

### Kaunda plea for Africa to build uranium plant

From Our Correspondent  
Lusaka, Nov 15.—President

Kaunda of Zambia today urged the setting up of a uranium enrichment plant by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which would be shared by the more industrialized African countries.

"It cannot be beyond the capacity of Africa under the OAU to establish a uranium-processing centre, I mean an enrichment plant of our own," Dr Kaunda said at the opening here of a five-day International Atomic Energy Agency conference.

mass of India's population little better off, while unemployment mounted. The Janata Party admits that the desert policy have never to be worked out, but it proposes to start putting it into practice over the next 10 years in at least three fields of mass consumption—clothing, footwear and soap.

The Government should not permit expansion of weaving capacity in the organized mills sector, the policy suggests. New capacity should be created only among handlooms and powerlooms with widely diffused ownership.

Mr Madhu Limaye, one of the Janata Party's general secretaries, who presented the new economic policy to the press, said the basic approach was that "what can be produced by the small-scale or large-scale sectors, and what can be produced by the small-scale shall not be open for large-scale industry."

Statutory demarcation is envisaged, with the only exception permitted to the general rule being industrial production entirely for export, he added.

While India's big industry is being advised to withdraw gradually from the consumer goods sector, the Janata policy statement envisages only a very

### Australia may slaughter cattle to halt disease

Sydney, Nov 15.—The Australian Government is considering sending troops by helicopter to slaughter tens of thousands of cattle in order to stop the spread of a disease which threatens the livestock industry.

The discovery of a new strain of bluetongue disease among cattle in the vast Northern Territory was announced last Sunday.

The disease is a debilitating disease affecting both cattle and sheep.

To prevent its spread to other

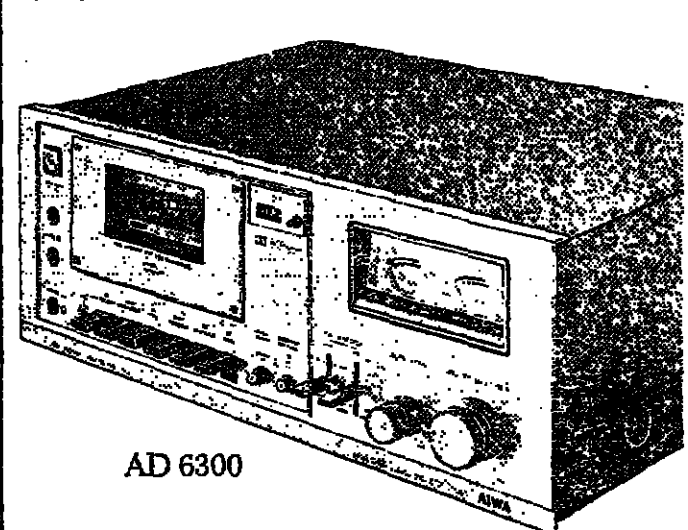
states, the movement of all animals out of the Northern Territory has been banned. Officials and ranchers are particularly concerned about its spread to sheep flocks in other parts of the country.

Britain and New Zealand have halted imports of live Australian cattle and sheep.

In northern Queensland thousands of sheep and cattle have been killed by fast-moving bushfires in the past 24 hours.—AP and Agence France-Presse.

France-Presse.

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## Racing

By Michael Sealy

Bunker Hill ran the race of his life when second to Border Inconceivable at the first time-out.

A Haydock last March, Adrian Maxwell's seven-year-old, who will be lower over from Ireland on the 17th, fine telling when giving Siberian Sun 12lb and a decisive beating at Punchestown in October.

The experienced Crofted Hall is not a certain runner. Junior O'Neill's eight-year-old, the impressive grey bay, halts at 11st 6lb and is feared under 12st 7lb on his reappearance, has also accepted a ticket for the Embassy Qualifier at Ascot.

At whichever meeting John O'Neill

Francombe will be making more use of his mount today.

The joker in The Dealer's pack. The six-year-old is sure to be well supported in the market. He has a reputation for being a bit of a bluffer, as if the bounds of hell are set at his heels when in the mood. On the flat at Sandown Park two years ago he was the surprise of the season when overcoming Marco Ricci and Hotohn in a valuable handicap.

At the end of each week Trustful jumping his buck, administered a decisive thrashing to Tepelino. Josh Clifford, the trainer, has highly regarded the horse, "I wouldn't be in a

affair and the bookmakers, surprisingly, differ widely in their assessment of the situation. Francombe is one of one of the favorites.

Ireland the same after Brown's will be attempting to make his comeback in the Feve Troytown Handicap at Na Brown Lad is sure to be in the money.

course. But the race is bound to be informative as the Cheletzeiz Gold Cup winner, Lady Davy, and the handicapper, Lord Fitz both entered starters.

STATE OF GOING: Knapton in good fettle; Golden Squire in poor state; Ladygo, Lord Sedgemoor,

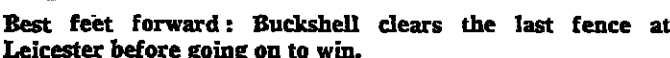
**12.45 CORNFORTH BURDLE** (Div 1: Novices: £272: 2m)

slow on the world. £1. 2d. Saint. £11. 9s.

Webb, attached to Nicholson's stable, was recording his 23rd win, although it was his first success over the 11-ounce limit. He was sent into the lead on the final turn for home. Cotton Coon was on his heels jumping the last three fences, and put in a strong challenge on the flat, which No. 2 Deuce responded in gallant style.

John Moran, an American jockey now with Peter Arthur at Aston Tirrold, had his second winner from three rides this season when he partnered Prince Abyss to a 25-1 runaway success in the Waltham Handicap Hurdle.

The 11-ounce limit was rumormongering and had 20 lengths to spare over Just Revenge, who, in



Michael Dickinson, riding one of his favourite horses, Toughe, who used to be in his father's yard, just managed to avoid the jockey's whip as he was sent off.

Barbary Selling Handicap Steeplechase and, left in the lead, made the rest of the running for a four and a half length victory.

Success of the season for the Yorkshire owner-trainer, and his wife, Muriel, retained Toughe.

Hidden Value earned a 33 to 1 quote with William Hill for the 1978 Grand National when beating the favourite, the 100 to 1 shot, in the John Portlock Handicap.

Hidden Value, who will be on O'Neill's short list for Aintree, runs next in a £1,500 steeplechase on 12th April, at Doncaster, in one week. His time yesterday was fast—only four seconds short of the record 6min 7sec set up for three and a half yards by Cheezor Moor in 1971.

O'Neill completed a quick double—and brought his score to 45 this season—by securing victory on Kamandy.

**By Cliff Temple**  
**Athletics Correspondent**

## Boxing

### Watt cannot expect to walk

It took Jim Watt less than a he is accustomed to competing in

Watt has a stroke of luck that is hardly likely to be repeated. Watt will probably have to work considerably harder this time.

For men making a voluntary contribution to the defense, there has not so far been any opportunity available. Most leading Continentals have styles of dress that are difficult to unravel and, in addition, Lucard is also a hard case. The Spaniards are weaker in this line, but Lucard is still a

**Turin, Nov. 15.**—Victor Galindez, has successfully defended his

Argentine since 1971. Galindez be stripped of his title.—Reuter.

**Cavalier hopes**

**Lauda hopes to drive new**

**PERTH:** Sheffield Shield Match-  
Queensland, 332 and 3/4 fr 7 dec  
Woolahouse, 2nd, 1 Mohan 70 and

← Lord's John Haig Trophy final (if Lord's not required for Gillette Cup semi-final).

**September**

← Lord's National Village Championships final (1st day).

### 1.0 IDENTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

ALSO RAN: 11-2 Empress's Gift,  
 6-1 Windmill Boy (dth), 8-3 Inver-  
 sary, 1-1 Leroux, 14-1 Toussaint,  
 1-1 Princess Arcade, 8-2 Lis-  
 t Prince (n), 8-10 Star of Grand,  
 1-2 ran.  
 TOTE: Wm. 51.86; places, 50n, 13p.  
 15p; dwt forecast, 215.51. H. Girard.

## 513 00439-0 Masino, Brenda. M. Bino. 7-10(1)

Collingwood .... J. O'Neill (5-3) 1  
Crawford ..... C. Hawkins (5-1) 2  
revive ..... P. Mangat (3-1) 3  
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Sir Garnet (5-1) 4  
an.  
TOTE: Wtn. 16p; dual forecast. 80p.  
Norton, at Barnsley, 21, 71.  
TOTE DOUBLE: Hidden Value, Cala  
Lions, 230.00, TREBLE: Gosh Bird,  
Kaimanau, Bakers, 278.20.

1. *Journal of Management Studies*, 1996, 33, 1, 1-14.

probably have to work considerably harder this time.

Lord's not required for Gillette Cup semi-final.

**September**

4—Lord's—National Village championship final, 1 day

...of problems," said the British designer, Gordon Murray, the creator of the BT45 and BT46. "Nothing unusual, however, for a new car. We are working hard on it.

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PARLIAMENT, November 15, 1977

## Concern that industrial tribunals are becoming too legalistic

House of Commons

Mr Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, said he shared concern that industrial tribunals had become over-legalistic, thus adding to their cost. It was something which would have to be looked at.

Mr Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston, C), seeking statistics on the number of industrial tribunals held before the end of 1976, asked: Is it true that the numbers are rising sharply? Clerks in employment exchanges often urged dismissed persons to claim, stating that it will not cost them anything even though their dismissal might be perfectly justified. The cost to the employer is inevitable, whether or not they claim.

Will the steps taken to stop claims which are purely vexatious or trivial because they are a trouble to industry?

Mr Walker (Doncaster, Lab.)—The number of applications to tribunals for unfair dismissal is increasing. She should not believe all the wild allegations she made about the staff of the employment service agencies have been investigated.

As we would expect, they give advice. They do not operate as the press have suggested.

The tribunals have power to award costs where there is a frivolous or vexatious claim lodged, but it is that influence which they already have.

Mr Max Madden (Sowerby, Lab.)—Will he confirm that no worker can make an application for unfair dismissal unless he has been employed for 26 weeks continuous employment and that that period ought to allow a competent employer to determine whether a person is satisfactory or unsatisfactory?

The provisions of this legislation represent fundamental rights which have been freely available for many years in most other countries for many years. (Labour cheers.)

Mr Walker—He is right. I never cease to be surprised that Conservative MPs complaining that the 26-week period excludes some of their constituents and that, in the first place, rests with the employer. It is not the Act that creates unfair dismissals. It is the employer.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—There is a great deal of concern about the way industrial tribunals are operating, a concern not just shared by employers but by some trade union leaders.

The number of unfair dismissal cases is going up by about 50 per cent a year. This is leading to a view among smaller employers in particular that it is better not to employ labour. If we are to get unemployment down, we ought to look at this in a less prejudiced way than perhaps he has done so far. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Walker—I acknowledge that the number of applications to tribunals on the grounds of unfair dismissal has gone up in recent years, but contrary to his estimate there has been a steady increase at the rate of 50 per cent during the last 18 months to about 3,000 cases a quarter. It would have helped if he would be more specific.

There are allegations that the tribunals have become over-legalistic and as a consequence legalism has added to the cost. I share that concern and it is something we will have to look at.

## Extensive talks on press charter

Mr Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, said that at the request of the Secretary of State (Mr Albert Booth) he was engaged in extensive discussions on the press charter required under the provisions of Trades Union and Labour Relations Act.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet, East, C)—Is it intended to write into this press charter the fundamental right of a journalist to belong to the appropriate union of his choice or not to belong to a union? Does that not do what the press representatives, with the most notable exception of the NUJ, who tried to reach an agreement on a voluntary charter for the industry, agreed that this right should be written in? Will he take cognizance of this fact?

Mr Walker (Doncaster, Lab.)—I am not quite sure where he is coming from. He is asking me to write into the charter before the House, should we so firmly committed himself and his party on this.

Indeed I am astonished that Mr Prior, in advance of the outcome of the talks, should be asking me to write into the charter before the House, should we so firmly committed himself and his party on this.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—Do we take it that the Government intend there should be total press freedom to the extent that the journalist should have the right to belong to a union or not to belong to a union?

Mr Walker—He has declared that he would not support any charter which would restrict the right of a trade union. That is a significant statement. It is a statement which he has made in the past.

Mr Prior—I am anxious to avoid protracted discussions in which I am engaged. I would find it difficult to reconcile what he says for with what he says against.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—Nothing does the sort of action taken by British Railways. (Conservative cheers.)

Why do the Government not at least bring pressure on employers who enter into union membership agreements which are so restrictive on the rights of existing employees at the time when the union membership agreement is entered into?

Mr Grant—We do not think it right to pressure employers or trade unions in the way suggested. It would be interfering with the right of free association.

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## Mr Rees stands firm on firemen's strike: 'we cannot move outside our guidelines'

When entering phase three of the pay policy the Government must recognise exceptional cases and the need for flexibility, Mr James Prior (South Ayrshire, Scot Lab) said when opening the emergency debate on the future of the fire service which the firemen were on strike.

He said the first time he visited the Houses of Parliament was as a young fireman in the 1960s and as a member of the Fire Brigades Union in one of the 100,000 calls to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the fire service. The hallmark of the union had always been a concern about the service by the men on the fire stations to the public.

The firemen more than most other groups had suffered grievous under the Government's pay policy. If the Government continued with their attitude to the firemen, saying "10 per cent and no more" in the situation which faced Mr Edward Heath in the autumn and winter of 1973-74.

That was the Magdalen Line mentality which the Government did not recognize that there were special cases. They had recognized that the police were a special case and a forward commitment to what that industry had to do.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—Do we take it that the Government intend there should be total press freedom to the extent that the journalist should have the right to belong to a union or not to belong to a union?

Mr Walker—He has declared that he would not support any charter which would restrict the right of a trade union. That is a significant statement. It is a statement which he has made in the past.

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penalty into the pocket of the fireman. Another 5,000 people are to be recruited to make up the hours. Would he consider a reduction to 42 hours plus overtime which would put more money into their pockets?

Mr Rees—A reduction in hours has been a major part of policy for the firemen's union for many years, and the social aspect is great.

Mr William Whitelaw, Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Preston and the Border, C) said the nation faced the first firemen's strike. It was important to make the position of the Opposition clear.

There were two deaths in England and Wales—one was at Tyne and Wear and one in Cornwall. He was sure that the Government would be able to find a way to ensure that they would be brought back to work.

The strike seemed to remain widespread. The majority of retained stations in the rural areas had responded to calls, but in some cases were restricting their attendance to calls in their own areas.

A fireman on strike did not cease to be a member of a brigade so that the provisions of the firemen's pension scheme about the payment of pension would still apply.

He had no wish to break the negotiating process which was taking place. He was sure that the Government would be able to find a way to ensure that they would be brought back to work.

We are (he said) talking about 31 per cent. We are not talking about something just over the 10 per cent, or a flexibility of that sort.

There were three sides to the offer on pay, an immediate 10 per cent, a benchmark, and the negotiable part. There was now also a different background to pay settlements compared with earlier ones. Interest rates were high, and the Government was in a difficult position.

When people spoke of special cases it must be recognized that there were a number of people in the fire service who were in a special case. It was not a special case for the firemen as a whole.

I must make it clear, as I did with the police, that the 10 per cent is not a benchmark. It is a benchmark. We cannot move outside our guidelines.

Mr Barbara Castle (Blackburn, Lab) said she was not going to feel that they would be fobbed off once again, could he not say that the Government recognized the need for a formula and say categorically that the Government would accept the formula that comes out of the negotiations in the fire service?

Mr Rees—There have been no commitments on phasing with any body else and I cannot do it for the firemen.

There were discussions on the formula in the NJC, on which the Government had not represented. The Government had not clear the reduction in hours to 42 hours following the feasibility study. He regarded that as the most important thing that the unions had wanted for years and it had been put to him at the Fire Brigades Union conference this year.

There was no other group of workers in a similar position who had been asked to work in certain circumstances.

The Government could rely on the constructive approach of the Opposition so long as the strike lasted.

Mr Heffer (Liverpool, Wat) said that the Government had to take a decision on whether to pay the firemen or not. He was sure that the Government would be able to find a way to ensure that they would be brought back to work.

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actions which protected the community who needed special treatment.

Mr Evelyn Hoosen (Montgomeryshire, Lab) said that no action could be taken as a special category. If the Government gave way to the firemen the Government would be doing so.

Mr Rees—A reduction in hours has been a major part of policy for the firemen's union for many years, and the social aspect is great.

Mr William Whitelaw, Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Preston and the Border, C) said the nation faced the first firemen's strike. It was important to make the position of the Opposition clear.

There were two deaths in England and Wales—one was at Tyne and Wear and one in Cornwall. He was sure that the Government would be able to find a way to ensure that they would be brought back to work.

The strike seemed to remain widespread. The majority of retained stations in the rural areas had responded to calls, but in some cases were restricting their attendance to calls in their own areas.

A fireman on strike did not cease to be a member of a brigade so that the provisions of the firemen's pension scheme about the payment of pension would still apply.

He had no wish to break the negotiating process which was taking place. He was sure that the Government would be able to find a way to ensure that they would be brought back to work.

We are (he said) talking about 31 per cent. We are not talking about something just over the 10 per cent, or a flexibility of that sort.

There were three sides to the offer on pay, an immediate 10 per cent, a benchmark, and the negotiable part. There was now also a different background to pay settlements compared with earlier ones. Interest rates were high, and the Government was in a difficult position.

When people spoke of special cases it must be recognized that there were a number of people in the fire service who were in a special case. It was not a special case for the firemen as a whole.

I must make it clear, as I did with the police, that the 10 per cent is not a benchmark. It is a benchmark. We cannot move outside our guidelines.

Mr Barbara Castle (Blackburn, Lab) said she was not going to feel that they would be fobbed off once again, could he not say that the Government recognized the need for a formula and say categorically that the Government would accept the formula that comes out of the negotiations in the fire service?

Mr Rees—There have been no commitments on phasing with any body else and I cannot do it for the firemen.

There were discussions on the formula in the NJC, on which the Government had not represented. The Government had not clear the reduction in hours to 42 hours following the feasibility study. He regarded that as the most important thing that the unions had wanted for years and it had been put to him at the Fire Brigades Union conference this year.

There was no other group of workers in a similar position who had been asked to work in certain circumstances.

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## Disturbing picture of bureaucracy in Brussels

House of Lords

Lord Wall, opening a debate on an EEC draft directive relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances, said that at a time when the EEC was becoming more legalistic, it was regrettable that documents like this draft directive should be issued by Brussels in this way.

It gave a disturbing picture of the bureaucracy in Brussels. There was a lot of red tape and a lot of time was wasted in the long run.

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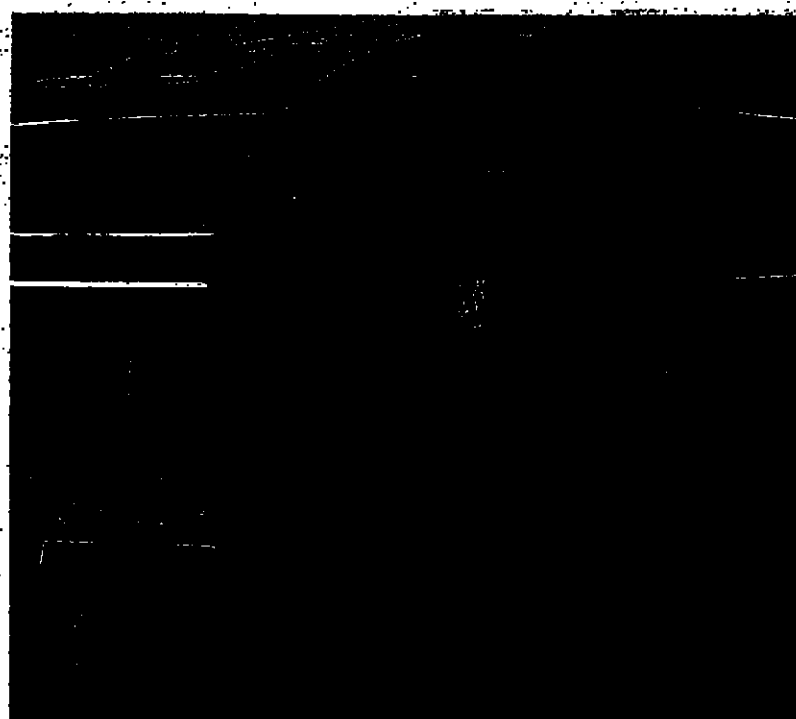
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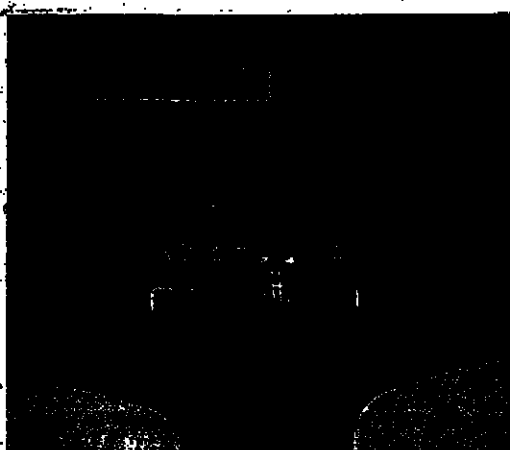


# Peugeot 604.

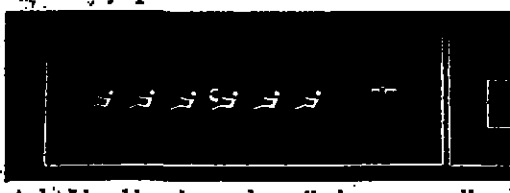
## Sumptuous surroundings are standard.



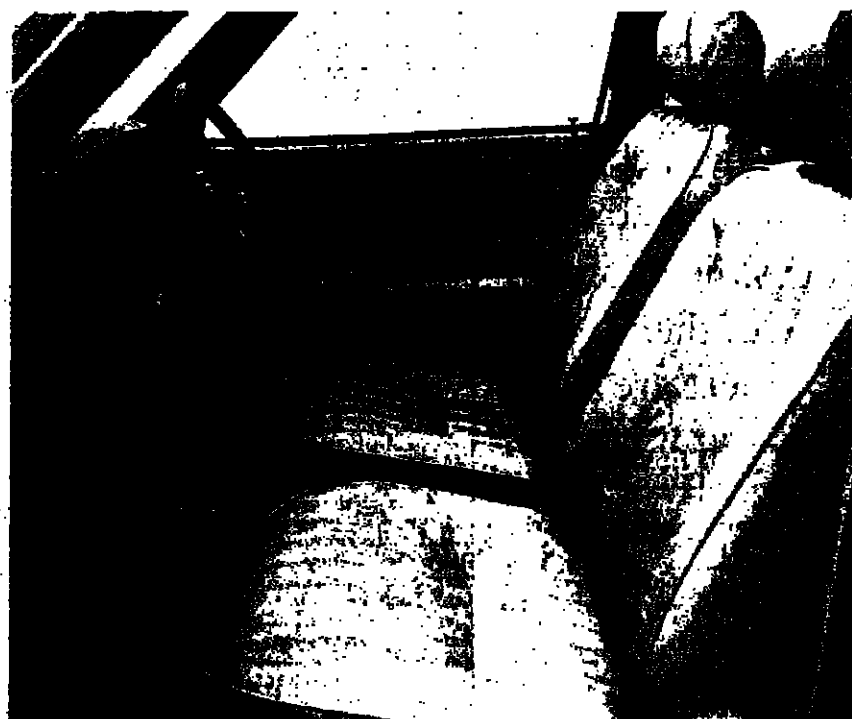
Power assisted steering removes pointless effort from driving, while retaining vital feel.



Centre console with easy-to-reach controls for headlight adjustment and for the all round electrically operated windows.



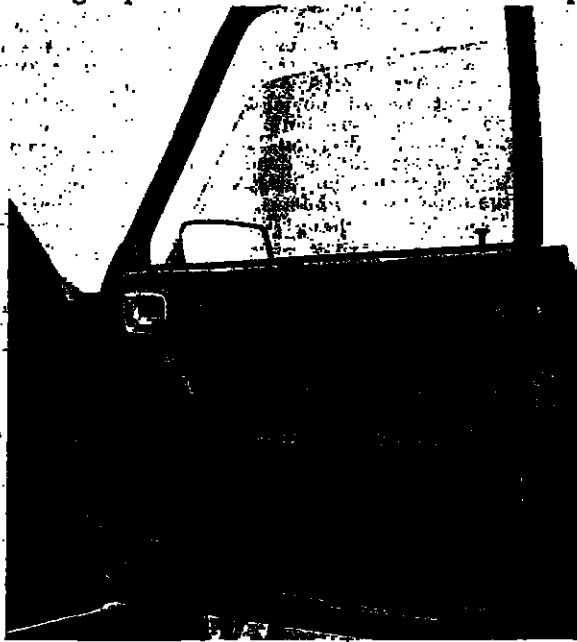
A dual level heating and ventilation system allows almost any combination of warm and cool air. Full air conditioning is optional.



Deep, luxurious front seats with integral head restraints are upholstered with soft velours or optional leather.



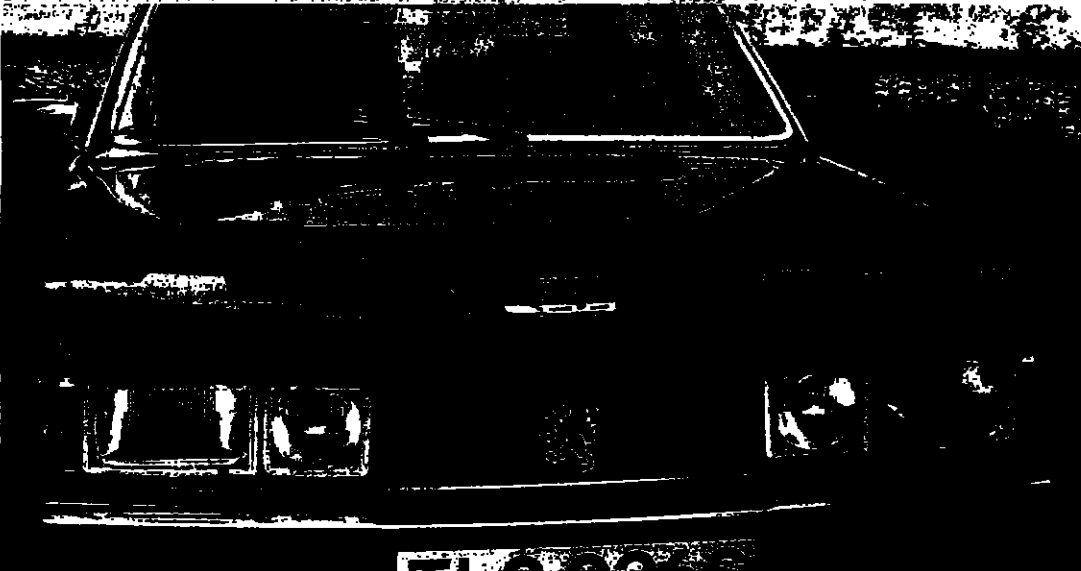
Rear seat passengers have more head and leg room than in almost any other luxury car.



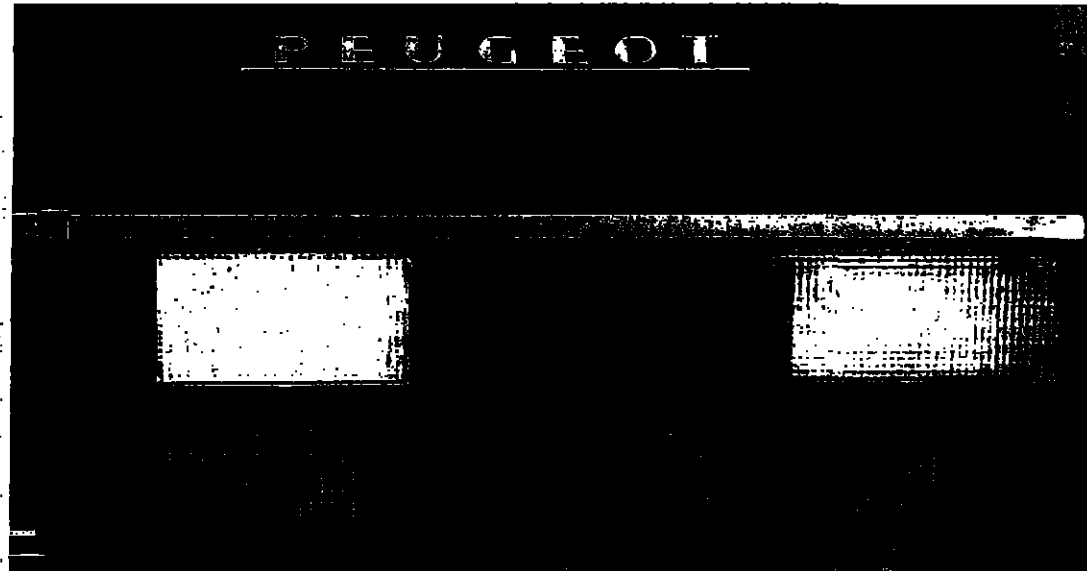
A central locking system provides instant, fuss free security at the touch of a button. Subtly tinted glass all round.



Also electrically operated, the sliding steel sunroof is standard on all 604 models.



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Prices of the superb 604 start at £6,695 (including Car Tax and VAT) and include: electrically operated sunroof, all round electrically operated windows, tinted glass, power assisted steering, interior headlight adjustment, central locking system, rear fog lamps, metallic paint finish. Optional extras include: leather upholstery, automatic transmission, air conditioning, Rouge Amaryllis paint finish (as on car shown). Delivery and number plates extra. Price correct at time of going to press. Service intervals every 10,000 miles. Fuel consumption (according to French Government test procedures): urban motoring - 17.6 mpg, at constant 56 mph - 31.4 mpg.

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## Northern Ireland: the tumbling statistics in bandit country

South Armagh One bright Sunday morning recently the band of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment marched through the rough little border village of Forkhill, and the local population followed it. They followed it more out of amazement than menace, while the band thumped and puffed its way to the perimeter of the embarrased Forkhill camp and played for men of the Q.L.R.'s B Company in the thin autumn sunshine. That may not sound much. But it was the first time it had happened since the troubles began, and is being seen as further evidence of Northern Ireland's slow painful return from the abyss.

Now for the bad news. There are still two IRA Active Service Units (ASUs) operating out of the republic in the bandit country of South Armagh. Their capacity to inflict brutal injury was also exemplified recently when a soldier was blinded by a bomb. Another bomb outside St Joseph's School on the outskirts of Crossmaglen blew out 35 plate glass windows when it was detonated by the army.

But even in Crossmaglen where shopkeepers still decline to serve soldiers for fear of their lives, or their livelihood, there are signs of war weariness. Reflected in the newsletter written to his parishioners by the Catholic priest after the St Joseph's School bomb, "Terrorism is evil in all times", it writes "but when those engaged in it put at serious risk the lives of innocent children and the public it is time that all of us voice our protests. People in Crossmaglen were also used by the murder last August of Willie Martin, aged 64, who was dubbed an informer by the Provisionals and who left a crippled widow.

Both the army and the police are anxious to avoid sounding over-optimistic, partly because complacency could all too easily be exposed—and partly because the gunmen might view it as a challenge. But privately they are as happy as can be expected with the progress now being made.

The total number of deaths for the first nine months of this year in Northern Ireland was 99, a huge drop from the 235 during the same period last year. Civilian casualties during June and August were the lowest since early 1974, and September was the first month since June 1971 in which no civilians died at all—though the pattern has not been sustained since. Explosions in the six counties were more than halved from 518 to 230 and the number of shooting incidents was down by a third from 1,465 to 954.

Armed robberies and attempted robberies were down from 644 to 459, and bank robberies from 24 to only three. The amount of money taken was also less, £388,200 against £475,000—and the police have recovered £250,000. Meanwhile the number of people charged in the courts has continued to rise. The first nine months this year showed a total of 1,047 against 922 in 1976. These figures also conceal a rise from 156 to 225 for the numbers charged with murder and attempted murder—and some of the crimes which are now being brought before the courts go back to 1970.

Altogether more than 7,500 weapons, over 900,000 rounds

'Even in Crossmaglen where shopkeepers decline to serve soldiers for fear of their lives there are signs of war weariness'

of ammunition and 116 tons of explosives have been seized by the security forces since Operation Motorman in July, 1972, when the army entered the "no-go" areas of Ulster and began to exercise control over a situation which had seemed in danger of slipping away.

Even the recent, dangerous blitz of incendiaries which the IRA has launched in Ulster's population centres, has some ironic compensations—reflecting as it does the increasing difficulty experienced by the terrorists in getting hold of high explosives.

It would be foolish to exaggerate the extent of the attrition. There is still a large number of young, inexperienced boys, according to intelligence sources. But they are still capable of indiscriminate attacks against "soft" targets, and there are still enough experienced hard-liners to direct them. Moreover, while the store of explosives is thought to be depleted, the Provisionals still have plenty of firearms, and money to buy more.

Even in this almost mystical land of South Armagh people are talking about the end of the troubles. This may be premature. But enough progress has been made for the police to ease their way back into the front line under Mr Roy Mason's policy of *The Way Ahead*, and for political leaders to be tentatively extended.

There is even talk of a further reduction in the Army presence from its current 14,500 in the not too distant future.

With the firemen's strike to complicate matters, this week of all weeks might seem a bad time to make any optimistic prognosis. But the progress so far made in Ulster's slow recovery deserves to be reflected.

Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

## The dangerous game of waiting for better times to spring a general election

An analysis of voting patterns and how they affect the parties

Likely issues in a general election held in February-March 1978 and their net contribution to percentages voting Conservative and Labour.

Issues	Impact	Direction	Net % Gains/Losses in Votes
Wages, Inflation, Prices, Cost of Living, Unemployment, Govt record	Large	-Labour	-3% Labour
Stabilisation of Pounds & Sterling, Positive of Payments, Small, aspects of Reduction in Govt record	Small	+Labour	+1% Labour
Personality of Mr Callaghan, Strikes, Trade Union Power, Level of Taxation, Individual Initiative, Constitutional—Scottish & Welsh Devolution	Medium	+Labour	+2% Labour
	Small	-Labour	-1% Labour
	Small	+Con	+1% Con
	Medium	+Con	+2% Con

to make judgments about the relative effects of various factors; what we have done is simply to generalize and systematize these.

We can tell whether our judgments are plausible by classifying issues for each of the post-war elections into our type assigning directions and magnitudes to them, and seeing whether increasing issue advantages for each of the major parties are associated with increased percentage votes (and vice versa). They are, very clearly, moreover, they are associated in the same way for both Labour and Conservatives.

From this comparison we can also see what precise net percentage gain is associated with the transition from "small" to "medium" and "medium" to "large" impacts. The gain in both cases is about 1 per cent. We can thus assess what percentage of a major party's vote in a particular election was due to the net impact of the salient issues in the campaign, we can add or subtract the "basic vote" it could expect to receive in the absence

net gain associated with the new stability of the pound and an anticipated slowing down of the rate of inflation.

The increasing prominence of Mr Callaghan in his role as Prime Minister should exert a positive net pull to Labour which is unlikely to be matched for the Conservatives by Mrs Thatcher. Inevitably, however, strikes and industrial unrest will alienate limited numbers from Labour.

The Conservatives should gain—again to a limited extent—from their persistent stress on removing the barriers to individual initiative. More voters will probably be attracted to the renewed debate on devolution—the party which stands clearly for the present constitution in the face of Labour's more ambiguous position.

Political circumstances can always change rapidly. Law and order (favouring the Conservatives heavily) could emerge as a major theme if persistent and spectacular demonstrations occur along with disorderly strikes. In this sense our estimates for the election are like economic forecasting—valid only for the circumstances which would be taken into account when they were made. If we are correct in typing the important issues however, Labour would suffer a net loss of 1 per cent from its "basic vote" of 41 per cent, giving it a final figure of 40 per cent of votes cast; and the Conservatives would gain 3 per cent net over and above their basic vote of 41 per cent, giving them a final result of 44 per cent of votes cast.

This estimate allows for a Liberal vote of some 10 per cent. If against current expectations it went up to 16.7 per cent, this would depress the Labour vote by about 2 per cent and the Conservative vote by about 1 per cent.

Our forecast agrees with the estimates of the party gap given in current polls, but cautions against anticipating that the real decline in Conservative support will continue. A continued decline in terms of voting intentions may certainly appear in polls over the next few months, but such intentions are recorded for many people who will not turn out to vote as well as for those who will. The impact of issues on differential turnout is on the other hand brought into account in our estimates.

The substantive implication of these is that Mr Callaghan's best policy is still to hold off the election for as long as possible. It is above all the association between austerity and the government's term of office, which weighs Labour down. This is not simply through its direct effects but also by preventing a credible appeal in terms of enhanced social welfare and income redistribution.

Given a run of economic success, Labour's image on these matters could to some extent be refurbished by the autumn. It would be dangerous however to rely on six months' time outweighing the previous record by February, as the election of 1970 demonstrated.

Whatever tactical gains are made by Mr Callaghan during the coming Parliamentary year, Mrs Thatcher still holds the dominant strategic position under currently foreseeable circumstances.

Ian Budge and  
Dennis Fairlie

The authors' book *Voting and Party Competition* was published recently by John Wiley & Sons, £16.75. Ian Budge is Professor of Government at the University of Essex, and Dr Fairlie is with the university's Department of Mathematics.

Bernard Levin

## This 15-second indictment of Soviet tyranny

I saw the BBC television programme *The Orlov Defence* at the weekend, and was deeply impressed by the skill and effectiveness with which it had been made. By Roger Mills and Mark Anderson, it was a masterpiece of the kind of skill and effectiveness which is rare in television. It was a masterpiece of the kind of skill and effectiveness which is rare in television.

Professor Yuri Orlov is a Soviet physicist of distinction. He was the Chairman of the Soviet Committee for Monitoring the Helsinki Agreement, a group which, with epic heroism, did exactly what the title suggests: they collected evidence to show the Soviet Union was keeping the parts of the Helsinki document relating to such matters as freedom of movement and the rendering of divided families. Obviously, the Soviet Union was not keeping these parts of the agreement, and had never had any intention of doing so; it needed no Orlov Group to demonstrate that. But the value of the committee was in the evidence it was able to gather, collating and disseminating the evidence; not even the *Chronicle of Current Events* did the work so systematically.

The Monitoring Group assembled details of 19 cases in which the Helsinki Agreement had been violated; they included instances previously unknown in the West as well as such familiar and tragic examples as that of Misha Volk-

hanaky, the child trapped in the Soviet Union by his mother's refusal to leave, and then to tell the truth about the abuse of psychiatry for political ends in that country.

They knew, they must have known, how it would end. One after another, the members of the group were arrested (it cannot be stressed too much of two often that they were doing nothing against Soviet law, let alone against what might be the law in a civilized country), and finally, in February this year, Professor Orlov was seized; he has been held incommunicado in prison ever since, and it may be worth adding that the prison in which he is held, the Lefortovo, is known to be one of the most brutal places of detention in the Soviet Union apart from the notorious camps and gulags.

It is in the nature of the defence that there lies the extraordinary development in the dissident movement in the Soviet Union. When Professor Orlov was arrested, his wife managed to put through a telephone call to London; the KGB cut her off after only 15 seconds, but those 15 seconds were to have an effect far beyond their span and even their content. For in that brief moment Mrs Orlov asked for her husband's defence to be undertaken by a British QC, Mr John Macdonald, and Mr Macdonald, who was the chief figure in the television programme, has been working on the case ever since. (Indeed, for some months, it seems, he was doing so virtually full-time, presumably to the peril of his practice and undoubtedly to that of his health.) The first task was to examine the particular laws that were relevant to the case; the second was to collect evidence. The first task was hardly made easier by the fact that Professor Orlov had not been charged with any offence, and was not to be for many months, not indeed, until pressure outside the Soviet Union, focused through the preparations in London for the Professor's defence, began to build up. Professor Orlov was thus accused of "making statements known to be fabrications, which defame the Soviet Union". And the admirable Mr Macdonald discovered that under Soviet law it is a defence to such a charge to show that the statements complained of were true, and that the defendant accused of making them believed them to be true.

From Moscow, the defence had the report of the Helsinki Monitoring Group itself, containing detailed and incontrovertible evidence. Outside, an army of escaped, exchanged or expelled dissidents was ready to testify. If the rulers of the Soviet Union do not now break their own law, she will be put on trial within her own borders. Of course, they will break their law; they have already done so. Keeping Professor Orlov in custody without trial for more than nine months, and also by failing to take evidence from the 17 Soviet witnesses who are ready to testify there for the defence, and whose names and addresses were sent from London to the legal authorities in charge of the Orlov case. But there seems no way now in which they can break their law by trying Professor Orlov without breaking it publicly, in a way which will make it clear even to the most slavish followers of detente among Western governments

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that the Helsinki Agreement is not being kept. The comprehensive way in which Mr Macdonald and his team have gone about their work was well demonstrated by his speech. Professor Orlov was thus accused of "making statements known to be fabrications, which defame the Soviet Union". And the admirable Mr Macdonald discovered that under Soviet law it is a defence to such a charge to show that the statements complained of were true, and that the defendant accused of making them believed them to be true.

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## The Why, When, Where and How of Hine Cognac

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## The battle of the truth about Arnhem

Tinkering with the truth, no matter how skillfully you do it, is a risky business and Sir Richard Woodhouse, in his film about the battle of Arnhem, *A Bridge Too Far*, opened a few months ago.

Irate Army brasses and medical experts wrote letters to *The Times* alleging distortions and downright lies, all of which left Sir Richard with another battle on his hands.

He tackled the hostile forces in a characteristically disarming way, I thought, by insisting that the intentions of all those involved in the making of the film were honourable. Whereupon, the assaults ceased. The public is proving less analytical by registering its approbation at the box office.

By all accounts, one of the most valid criticisms made against the film is that it underestimates, or even completely ignores, the contribution made by the Royal Army Medical Corps during the belated events at Arnhem. Colonel Graeme Watrak was assistant director of medical services with the 1st Airborne Division, and his letter to *The Times* was both a spirited and moving attempt to give his men some of the credit the film denied them. He maintained that, far from being the spent force the film suggested, the RAMC was there right through to the bitter end.

There was, I am now re-



mined, a modest omission from his letter. He made no mention of his own remarkable story, of how he stayed behind at Arnhem to look after the seriously wounded and then, with the help of the Dutch Resistance, escaped through occupied Holland in a more or less journey that lasted four months.

A year ago, the BBC re-

## Test of taste at the V & A

The trouble is, I have never been able to say "when", whether it be a second helping of Sevruga or just another wee drop of the hard stuff. So I am delighted to be able to commend to you the exhibition mounted by the Crafts Advisory Committee which opens today at the V & A (from 12 admission) until February 12.

Say "When" for that is the title of the exhibition, and will appeal to young people of all ages. It turns exhibitionism into a game where craft and art are juxtaposed with industrial design in a grouping of objects which form questions and invite reactions from the viewer.

It is all about pouring vessels (through the ages)—artefacts which belong to a single family in terms of function but which reveal a whole series of diverse images. The jugs and pots and bottles have all been made in Britain in the last 600 years. One of the objects of the game is to say when things were made.

There is no rigid framework of rules and the exhibition invites you to look at objects and

## Exciting issue, not a Boer

Although the South African Government may be politically beleaguered, its Historical Mint in Cape Town has responded to advances from the British Ben Ritchie-Book used to say out biffing. The Mint has issued a medalion collection to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Vereeniging at the end of the Boer War.

No fewer than 12 generals (admittedly both Boer and British) are depicted on the 40g sterling silver medals which are being released at monthly intervals. The premier set, from a limited edition of 5,000, was presented to the Africana Museum in Johannesburg.

The first medal carried (inevitably) the bust of General Smuts and a later one will carry the head of Lord Baden-Powell, whose use of schoolboys as messengers led to the formation of the Boy Scout movement. The Mint has researched a biographical history to accompany the medalions.

I have it, on the highest authority, that there is a public relations man in Britain called Michael Buncombe.

## Shadow play

Although Emilio Colombo, the President of the European Parliament, has publicized his visit to London this Friday as his "day for meeting top people", it seems that he will be received by none of the top three politicians.

Sigmar Colombo had hopes of talking to Messrs Callaghan and Steel and to Mrs Thatcher. But the Prime Minister's office told me that Mr Callaghan has no plans to meet the Euro-parliamentarian. Mr Steel is out of town and the Liberals think that Sigmar Colombo might like to chat to Jeremy Thorpe instead. Mrs Thatcher cannot break a prior engagement and has asked John Davies, the shadow Foreign Secretary, to deputize for her.

Quoth the raven I am becoming overwhelmed with reminiscences about announcements over public address systems. I especially like this one from Pamela Brasley-Smith, of Northampton. She tells me she was staying in a hotel called the Raven when a croaking voice over the PA system said: "Will Mr Duncan come to the telephone please."

"Being a lifelong student of the Bard and almost knowing Macbeth backwards," she says, "I told my companion, 'The Raven himself is worse than craps the fatal entrance of Duncan under my battlements.'"

Mrs Brasley-Smith adds, with some justification, "It was my finest hour."

## Outnumbered

Today's edition of *The Times* is number 60,162, a fact that spells gloom for Mr I. C. Joyce, of Hinchin, Hertfordshire. It marks the end of a run of editions to which he has been able to give a name.

Mr Joyce is a train enthusiast. His sequence began with edition 60,001 which he named Sir Ronald Macdonald after the A4 Pacific locomotive of that name and number.

The sequence ran unbroken through the ranks of A4, A3 and A1 Pacifics up to locomotive number 60162, "Saint Johnstone"—the name Mr Joyce has given to today's issue of *The Times*.

He regrets that BR cannot mark the appearance of 60,162 by introducing high speed trains "along the old domain of those fine locomotives, the Fast Coast between King's Cross and Edinburgh". Another instance of BR not being able to keep up with *The Times*.

The Langton Gallery has had some delightful ideas over the years, but none more amusing than the elaborate private view invitation (a presentation to the book) they have just sent out for the exhibition of original drawings by Bert Richey which illustrate "Abequary", the verses of Christopher Logue, which is to be published this week by Jonathan Cape. The exhibition will run from Thursday to November 23. When it closes, the Langton will offer the eighth of their Great British Cartoon Shows with a selection of artists from Rowlands to Scarfe. It will last until Christmas.





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## PRESIDENT SADAT'S INITIATIVE

Once again President Sadat, after a period when his policies appeared to have been bogged down in a complete stalemate, has seized the initiative with a spectacular gesture, which has taken him to the Knesset, to talk peace with Israel, was to explain this as an essentially rhetorical statement, a way of emphasizing the point that Egypt did not intend to let procedural obstacles impede substantive negotiations in the Geneva conference, and to add that of course the President could not actually go to Israel unless the Israelis first accepted this or that condition.

It seems they were wrong, for on Monday night Mr Sadat said he was prepared to go to Israel without any preconditions, within a week of receiving a formal invitation, and Mr Begin immediately responded that a formal invitation would be dispatched through American diplomatic channels without delay. It is significant that this exchange was conducted on American television. The dominant consideration in both sides' diplomacy is the need to make a good impression in the United States, and especially to avoid being blamed by the United States for any breakdown in the peace-making process. American insistence on the need for a peaceful settlement thus has the beneficial effect of obliging the two sides to compete in proving the sincerity of their desire for peace. Mr Carter can therefore legitimately claim the breakthrough in Egyptian-Israeli relations as a success for his foreign policy, at a moment when his administration badly needs a success to reestablish its authority.

There should be no doubt that in having in this way President Sadat is showing considerable moral courage. The danger is not so much that he might be assassinated by a Palestinian fanatic or overthrown by an Egyptian coup. Those dangers exist already, and if there were a coup it would be more likely to arise from Egypt's internal problems than from any move directly connected with the Arab-Israeli

conflict. From that point of view the most dangerous position is one of inertia, and that is clearly what Mr Sadat is determined at all costs to avoid.

In 1973 he escaped from inertia by military action, running the risk of a total and humiliating military defeat. Now he is trying to escape from inertia by a spectacular diplomatic offensive, and again he runs the risk of grave humiliation if it brings no results. No official Arab voice has been raised as yet to condemn his offer to go to Israel—and again it is significant and encouraging that no Arab state wishes to take public responsibility for sabotaging the initiative. But there can be no doubt that the Arab "but reaction" is one of scepticism and anxiety, if not contempt.

Many Arabs will have been displeased that the Egyptian President should have offered to go and talk peace in Israel on the very day Israeli planes destroyed a Lebanese village and killed over a hundred people, almost all of them civilians. Others will be afraid that this will be taken by Israel as a sign of weakness, and that it will stifle Israel's determination to make no concessions by convincing her that Egypt's desire for peace is so strong that she will sooner or later have to accept Israeli terms, even if it means breaking solidarity with the other Arab countries.

This undoubtedly is what many Israelis want to believe, and Mr Sadat is taking the risk of encouraging them in that belief. However, it is good that at least one Arab leader has the courage to take that risk, because it is difficult to see who gains from the alternative, which is to let the present deadlock continue.

Israeli wishful thinking about Egypt is closely paralleled by Syrian fearful thinking, and the Israelis' dream of a separate peace with Egypt is the Syrians' nightmare. Today Mr Sadat goes to Damascus to try to convince President Assad that the nightmare has no substance, and no doubt when he addresses the Knesset he will do his best also to dissipate the Israeli dream. A great part of his speech will certainly be devoted to the grievances and rights of the Palestinians, and to the necessity

for Israel to have the moral courage to set aside preconditions and talk directly to the Palestinian leaders, just as he has had the moral courage to set aside preconditions and talk directly to Israel.

Both Israelis and Syrians will be inclined to dismiss these remarks as a rhetorical smoke-screen behind which a separate peace is being prepared. Yet this is surely to misunderstand the thrust of President Sadat's policies. He has not since 1973 been separating Egypt from the rest of the Arab world. What he has done is to move closer, within the Arab world, to the conservative and wealthy Arab states—especially Saudi Arabia—and to enlist their influence, as well as that of the United States, in favour of a moderate policy for the Arab world as a whole, including the Palestine Liberation Organization. Today Egypt is financially and politically dependent not only on the United States but on Saudi Arabia, and the other Gulf States, and in pursuing a peaceful settlement with Israel President Sadat has made great efforts to carry Syria and the PLO along in his wake, precisely in order to avoid having to break these Arab ties.

And he has been by no means unsuccessful. Both Syria and the PLO have dragged their feet, but in the last resort, rather than be left out in the cold, they have gradually moderated their positions. Syria has accepted the idea of a peace treaty if Israel withdraws to the pre-1967 borders. The PLO has accepted the idea of an independent state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and now accepts the idea of Palestinian representatives negotiating with Israel at Geneva as part of a single Arab delegation, without a specific PLO label, on the basis of the American-Soviet joint statement issued last month. No doubt if the Geneva conference fails one option Egypt would examine is to try to recover the purely Egyptian occupied territory in return for a non-belligerency agreement. But would Israel give up Sharm al-Sheikh and the Rafah approaches for less than full peace? And can she seriously expect Egypt to conclude the kind of full peace she wants unless the other Arab parties are involved as well?

## THE ENTREPRENEURS AND MANAGERS SPEAK OUT

The first national conference of the Confederation of British Industry, which ended yesterday at Brighton fully served its main purpose in giving Britain's employers a platform from which they could express their views in the full glare of publicity. It has until now always been a problem for the CBI and its members that its annual calendar provided no such occasion. Unlike trades unionists and politicians, employers have in the past tended to be over-represented in stating their views in public. Brighton has changed that at least.

What was said at the conference was, therefore, in one sense less important than the fact that entrepreneurs and managers have at last decided that they have a voice and that it should be heard. In the past the fact that the CBI has an extremely wide constituency has resulted in its utterances on economic and industrial issues of the day tending to be muted, or the result of compromise. The debates at the conference allowed a fuller range of points

of view to be expressed more freely. The way in which management put its views will have gone some way to showing in public that there is another side to most industrial questions.

But the CBI's conference was not simply an exercise in public relations. It was also a further step towards making the confederation itself more open to its members. A frequently-heard criticism from businessmen in the past has been that the confederation was run by a small circle of top industrialists, who too often did not heed the views of the grass roots. Lord Wadsworth of the House of Lords has tried to introduce much greater membership participation in the work of the CBI. Last year they published a discussion document *The Road to Recovery* which was extensively debated in London and the regions and led to the drafting of *Programme for Action 77*, a policy statement which set out the CBI's goals for the year ahead. This year the confederation has taken the process a step further by putting its discussion document *Britain Means Business 1977* before a

national conference and asking it to adopt the ideas in it as CBI policy for the year ahead.

It has been a salutary experience. While most of the document was endorsed, at least one important section—the reform of pay bargaining—came in for violent criticism for being too corporatist. It will now have to be examined again by the confederation's grand council. This will not kill the proposed reform of the pay bargaining system. On the contrary, it will ensure that when the CBI leadership approaches the Government and the TUC with its ideas on the subject it will be able to do so in the knowledge that it has the fullest possible backing of its members.

The CBI took a risk in mounting a national conference. If it had not been a success, it could have badly damaged the confederation's image and its influence. But the conference has in the event been manifestly successful. The CBI should now certainly make this an annual event.

### Criminal legal aid

From Mr Hugh Montgomery Campbell  
Sir, On November 1 you gave a report of the oral evidence given by the Lord Chief Justice to the Royal Commission on Legal Services. I refer in particular to Lord Widgery's view, in the context of criminal cases taking too long, that there is no proper financial control of criminal legal aid.

The Law Society wholeheartedly agrees with this view. In civil legal aid there has been built up over a period exceeding 25 years a sophisticated system of control, financial and otherwise, administered by The Law Society under the guidance of the Lord Chancellor. In criminal legal aid, the only control is that exercised by the court. This has proved ineffective in practice which is wrong in principle. The court's control must always be limited because it is fundamental that the prosecution must prove its case and the accused cannot be compelled to disclose his case.

The great majority of criminal cases in the crown courts are conducted on legal aid. Under the present system each case has to be vetted by a committee of lawyers before legal aid is granted. There should be a similar system in criminal legal aid administered by The Law Society. This would have two great advantages. Firstly, the Legal Aid Committee would be completely independent of the court and, secondly, before public money is spent on his defence, the accused would be required to put his case in detail to a committee. In the civil system, the control does not end with the grant of the legal aid certificate. So the criminal administration would exercise a much greater control than there is at present, over such things as the extent of work to be done under legal aid and change of solicitors.

There is much public concern at the present time at the length and expense of criminal trials. The adoption of a system similar to that used in civil cases would not solve all the problems. That it would substantially improve the situation I have no doubt.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH MONTGOMERY CAMPBELL,  
Chairman, Legal Aid Committee,  
The Law Society's Hall,  
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.  
November 7.

### Academic posts

From Professor David Lowenthal  
Sir, The scarcity of new academic posts (*The Times*, October 18) is only one of several problems exacerbated by Government policy and by Treasury control of the universities. Enforced parsimony and an obsession with security are stifling British academic life. Except at the very top, hardly any ever moves from one university to another. Once appointed, lecturers tend to remain for life. Except at the very bottom, no one comes in. British universities today are dying not just from lack of funds but from want of enterprise.

How has this come about? Because salaries are age-related and funds are scarce, universities employ only the youngest applicants for lectureships. Anyone over 28 is generally viewed as too expensive. Students who interrupt their academic careers with a few years' outside work, travel or other experience thereby miss their chance. Only those who move directly from undergraduate to postgraduate, aspiring candidates stand much hope of being taken on. And academic tradition virtually guarantees that anyone employed will be confirmed in his

post, however little he or she subsequently contributes.

Thus the normal contact with the world outside, the universities become ever more ingrown. Those who are adventurous and inquiring are less likely to go into the universities in the first place. Once in academia, only the creative and the energetic risk moving out—away from the universities or across the ocean—when they find no position matching their talents and ambitions. The past remains ultimately dominating many academic departments. Those who are not withdrawn or indifferent to begin with are apt to vegetate for want of stimulus and challenge.

What is to be done? Leave the universities free to negotiate their own funding and decide their own priorities. Arrange for a proportion of staff each year to interchange academic posts. Impose staff requirements for tenure after five or six years, allowing a significant proportion of posts to be taken by newcomers at all ranks and ages. Leave room for visiting staff from abroad, from the non-academic world, and from those who have retired but remain alert and ready to contribute. Base starting salaries solely on relevant experience and not on age as at present. These measures alone will not ensure universities health while Government considers higher education an extravagance to be restricted to a tiny minority, and, as I noted earlier (*The Times*, August 25, 1975), inequitably erodes lecturers' living standards. But with out some reform, British universities will decay into place-serving mediocrity, and taxpayers who complain they are wasting their money on tertiary education will be right.

Faithfully yours,  
DAVID LOWENTHAL,  
Department of Geography,  
University College London,  
Gower Street, WC1.  
November 9.

## Firemen's strike: problems for the Christian conscience

From the Archbishop of Westminster

Sir, Most people are deeply disturbed by the industrial action taken this week by the Fire Brigades Union. The consequent danger to human life is an intolerable threat to the whole community, no matter which party to the dispute is held to be ultimately responsible for that threat. Christians believe that human life has an incalculable value and as are damaged that the lives of innocent individuals are put at risk in what is seen as a struggle for economic benefits. This is a new situation. It poses acute moral problems for the Christian conscience. First and foremost, it is an unmistakable signal that our country must seek urgently new ways of settling industrial disputes and achieving social justice.

Those outside the national and local negotiations are unable to judge the issues of the present dispute accurately and fairly. Firemen seem to have genuine grievances, but at the same time the economic well-being of the country as a whole calls for economic restraint and equal sacrifices. A Church leader is not qualified to offer detailed remedies, but may I suggest two basic propositions, one of which might help to improve the situation?

First, could not the firemen and their leaders reconsider exactly the possible consequences of their total withdrawal of labour? These consequences—in as much as they involve grave danger to human life—surely far outweigh the economic benefits to be gained from industrial action. Would it not be more humane for them immediately to substitute selective action, even if rigorously applied, while they seek to find a solution to their grievances?

Secondly, some people have undoubtedly suffered economically because their social and professional conscience would not allow them to strike. The community should not allow those who hold the lives and safety of others in their hands to be thus disadvantaged. Could not the Government undertake to hold an independent official enquiry into the pay structures of the firemen and of other groups in a similar position? Such an enquiry could suggest their place in a national wage structure and its findings could become part of future economic policy for the government of the day.

We need a publicly known and agreed policy on differentials. This would allow those who hold the lives and safety of others in their hands to be thus disadvantaged. Could not the Government undertake to hold an independent official enquiry into the pay structures of the firemen and of other groups in a similar position? Such an enquiry could suggest their place in a national wage structure and its findings could become part of future economic policy for the government of the day.

Yours faithfully,  
BASIL HUMPHREYS,  
Archbishop of Westminster,  
Westminster, SW1.  
November 15.

From Mr Ralph Harris and Mr John B. Wood

Sir, May we pose some questions to readers who are now tempted to take the consequences of the future on defeating the firemen? Have politicians forgotten the eventual cost to themselves and us

of Mr Heath's economically misguided battle with the miners only because "it is really" responsible" or "patriotic" for the Conservatives—and now the CBI—to encourage a Labour Government to repeat the same folly behind a rhetorical smoke-screen about not "confronting" or "taking on" the firemen?

Is it high courage or procrastinating cowardice to allow the 10 per cent "guideline" to drift into a minimum-maximum that paralyses economic logic—and the labour market? What has become of the vaunted move from rigid incomes policy towards freer collective bargaining? Yet how otherwise will differentials for skill and responsibility begin to be unfrozen?

Are we or are we not short of police and firemen—in many areas? If we are, could there be better economic logic for increasing their pay above the average—in those areas? Why are political "leaders" failing to teach the bemused public that the only economic/social/moral argument for higher wages is a genuine shortage of labour (not induced by restrictive practices) to discharge vital national services? Must the correction of every crippling distortion in our economy always be put off till another day?

A final question may expose the shallow and short-sighted expediency of politicians now brazenly basking in fickle and bewildered security benefits are increased by over 14 per cent when taxed wages and salaries are held to 10 per cent (say 6 per cent net), who will MPs—public opinion polls—blame when shortages of highly skilled men in key jobs increasingly disrupt our tenuous prospects of national recovery, and when essential services are further? Yours faithfully,

RALPH HARRIS, General Director,  
JOHN B. WOOD, Deputy Director,  
The Institute of Economic Affairs,  
2 Lord North Street,  
Westminster, SW1.  
November 15.

From Mr J. A. Long

Sir, "We are not asking for much—we only want the National Average." But the average, by definition, is as much below an average as there is above, and there is a real danger in allowing everyone below an average to believe it is therefore, in some way, deprived.

To be below a "Living Wage" is in itself a justification for a rise. To be below the National Average is not. Yours truly,  
J. A. LONG,  
The Belfry,  
Yarcombe,  
Honiton,  
Devon.  
November 11.

From Mr Peter Mullen

Sir, "The Government has a duty to prepare for the consequences of a strike." The Government and the local authorities and the country as a whole have a responsibility. Thus spoke the Home Secretary in a Ministerial Broadcast on Sunday, November 13, 1977. It is not only the consequences of a strike that government, local authorities and the community have a duty to prepare for but also the consequences of every sort of emergency, natural, man-made, military or whatever renders our essential services overstrained or impotent in time of need.

Dealing with emergencies

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Immigrants' difficulties

From Mr Mohammad Aslam  
Sir, Your letter from Mark Bonham Carter (November 2) and article by David Lane (November 4) on the subject of immigration have made some valuable points but miss some others. Although there is no doubt regarding the great efforts made by the Commission for Racial Equality and other bodies which precede them these efforts are handicapped by the Government's discriminatory legislation against immigrants from Asia and the West Indies. Pressure from right-wing groups such as the National Front may be partly instrumental in creating a situation where members of families of many immigrants are separated and every obstacle is put in the way of them coming together.

The 1971 Immigration Act, with its patrias and non-patrias, created a class of second-class citizens in the form of Asian-Asians. Although the law states that the purpose of the entry of dependants of people already settled here, in practice it is very difficult to get permission for them to come. Now it is proposed that the Commission for Racial Equality should have the right to replace the child allowance so they are not discriminated against in that they will be worse off than other taxpayers.

The excuse given for not continuing with the allowance is the extra staffing costs in retention would involve the Inland Revenue, although no evidence has been produced to show how the increase would arise. It is difficult to see how this slight clerical adjustment would need extra staff, nor has the need to keep down the number of staff been used before, to my knowledge, as an excuse for injustices aimed in the tax system against one section of the community.

The number of dependant children coming into this category is comparatively small, and by the passage of time since their parents came to the country, are either reaching, or have reached, the age when child allowance would no longer be applicable. The retention of the allowance for them for another five years would fairly well cover these numbers, and thereby save their parents the hardship of paying the extra tax and trying to support their children as well. At the same time the Government, in agreement with the opposition parties, should look at the legislation as it discriminates against immigrants. It should also look at the way legislation is applied, especially where the local rights of immigrants to have their children join them in this country are overruled by those very administrators of the law who are supposed to uphold it.

With such injustices removed the immigrant community would gain much more confidence in the law of the land, the work of such bodies like the Commission for Racial Equality would be more easy, and community relations in the country as a whole consequently improved. Yours faithfully,

MOHAMMAD ASLAM, Chairman,  
Standing Conference of Pakistani Organizations in the UK,  
22 Seely Road,  
Leopards Sand,  
Northampton,  
November 6.

### The Arnolfini marriage?

From Mr Leonard Allen

Sir, Mr Paul Overy in his recent interesting article (November 8) focused on the Jan van Eyck painting "The Marriage of Arnolfini" throws doubt upon whether it was their marriage, gives reasons for thinking the wife was pregnant, and that was the reason for the celebration. This disregards previous interpretations which seem more logical. From what I have read over the years about this fascinating painting and painter and the time he lived in, Flanders customs did not extend to formal marriage ceremonies, in fact it could be verbal without witnesses and quite legal.

What better way to prove the marriage than with a painting like this one, dated with all the symbols. Arnolfini is raising his right hand making the solemn

marriage vow, she holding his hand in agreement.

The small dog signifies faithfulness which is appropriate to a marriage vow that to pregnancy celebration. St Margaret, carved on the chair, would represent the patroness of married women to support the bride; the painter and his assistant (?), reflected in the convex mirror, would appear appropriate witnesses. There is a "1434" rather than "Jan van Eyck made me" as in previous paintings.

The loose voluminous dress worn was very much the fashion of the day. St Catherine and again St Mary Magdalen were depicted in paintings in similar fashion. Surely they were not pregnant?

Yours,  
LEONARD ALLEN,  
20 Norfolk Road,  
Brighton,  
Sussex.

## Mapping buried history

From Professor A. L. F. Rivett

Sir, Most of the points in the letter of the Director General of the Ordnance Survey (November 11) have been dealt with in your leading article and in Professor Cunliffe's letter of November 12, but one sentence in it demands further attention: "Since the OS does not employ professionally qualified field archaeologists we hope that our adoption of these measures will... further improve the reliability of archaeological classification."

In the first place, ever since the appointment of O. G. S. Crawford in 1920 the OS has employed a professional Archaeology Officer, and for much of that time an Assistant Archaeology Officer too. Are these posts now to be quietly extinguished?

But secondly, there is no generally recognized "professional" qualification in field archaeology, in the sense of identifying, defining, classifying and surveying field antiquities—indeed for the past two years a Council for British Archaeology committee, of which I am the chairman, has been trying to devise a workable scheme of exemptions for holders of these degrees and diplomas which do include this type of work.

Our task is exceptionally difficult, because proficiency in it depends partly on natural aptitude (not everyone can see a ploughed-down barrow or field system) and partly on training, but most of all on experience.

Several of the OS's archaeological field surveyors, with many years of experience behind them, are among the best practitioners in the country. In fact, they are the "professionals" par excellence. This is widely recognized by archaeologists, and it is shocking that the Director General should imply the contrary. I hope that everyone who reads his letter read also the tribute to them from the Royal Commission, quoted by PIS on the facing page.

Yours faithfully,  
A. L. F. RIVETT,  
Professor of Roman Provincial Studies,  
University of Keele,  
Staffordshire.

From Dr D. W. Rhind

Sir, Most of us readily accept that a knowledge of pre-history and history is a vital backdrop for any nation. But the primary business of the Ordnance Survey is and always has been to record and display the geography of this country. Physical manifestations of our history constitute just one aspect of this geography, albeit a fascinating one.

The numerous letters you have published from antiquaries, historians and archaeologists, together with your leader of November 12, may well result in the retention of those OS staff who are making an invaluable contribution to the history of our country. I am sure that anything more than a temporary reprieve for this group would be premature, given the fundamental review of Survey objectives announced last May by the Secretary of State for the Environment. There are many other tasks of immediate practical utility which might usefully be assigned to OS, including the recording of land use and the archaeological inventory and a number of other possibilities will be investigated in this review.

Finally, in setting out a new future for OS I am sure that the relevance of the increasing use of remote sensing from aircraft or satellites in certain types of survey will be understood. These methods contrast with the on-site investigation characteristics of much detailed archaeological work. Given such substantial differences in methods of work, a logical solution might be for the archaeologists to be employed elsewhere in the Department of the Environment. Yours faithfully,  
DAVID RHIND,  
Department of Geography,  
University of Durham.

### Sculptured elms

From the Reverend R. R. Robinson

Sir, On a recent holiday in the Soviet Union, I spent some time in Armenia. A lovely tree-lined main street of Echmiadzin, adjacent to the cathedral and Palace of the Catholics, was to be observed about half a dozen dead tree trunks sculptured in the fashion suggested by your correspondents. They make an attractive addition to the visual delights of the city, and are fine works in themselves, depicting, as they do, such subjects as family life, a man in folk dress, and characters from Holy Scripture.

Such a custom imported into England and copied from our Armenian friends in the Soviet Union would enhance the beauty of our towns and countryside, encourage artists, and answer the problem of what to do with some of our dead trees. Yours faithfully,  
RAYMOND R. ROBINSON,  
Holy Redeemer Clergy House,  
24 Exmouth Market,  
Clerkenwell, EC1.

### Anthropophagous mice

From Sir Kenneth Berrill and others

Sir, We were distressed to learn of John Wilton's disturbed night in his Jeddah Embassy (letter, November 11). It was perhaps remiss of us not to state explicitly that the keeping of cats in Ambassadors' residences is highly desirable not only to keep down mice but also to reflect a British way of life. The unacceptable entertainment allowance known as Indirect Representational Supplement could perhaps be deemed to cover the expenditure. There may be one problem however. Visiting embassies we could not fail to notice the high propensity of Ambassadors to keep dogs, usually very large or very small, rarely medium sized. Perhaps this explains John Wilton's problems. Yours faithfully,

KENNETH BERRILL,  
TESSA BLACKSTONE,  
KATHARINE MORTIMER,  
Cabinet Office,  
Central Policy Review Staff,  
70 Whitehall, SW1.











1990



## THE ARTS

## A joyful bazaar of comic invention

The Comedy of Errors  
Aldwych

Ned Chaillet

An Italian village square bedecked with tinkers and tourist goods is as likely as any place for an updated musical version of *The Comedy of Errors* to take place. In Trevor Nunn's already lauded production, which Irving Wardle reviewed in *Stratford* last year, those "boys from Syracuse" Antipholus and his slave, Dromio, find more than the multiple confusions Shakespeare handed them with. There is a real sense of place, a high-wire and Mr Nunn's own songs with music by Guy Woolfenden and, of course, there are the twin brothers, Antipholus and Dromio of Ephesus.

In Mr Nunn's production the Royal Shakespeare Company is seen at nearly full strength with hardly a slack performance even in the back of the chorus, and because it is a musical the chorus has much more to do than carry the plot along. When the twins from Syracuse first begin to be mistaken for their Ephesus look-alikes there are bar-girls and waiters to witness the confusion. By the time the resident wife, goldsmith, police officer and courtesans have been caught up in the confusion, the entire village is in pursuit of

first the one, then the second set of twins.

Though the twins manage to look remarkably alike, with Roger Rees, as the Syracuse Antipholus, giving an uncanny imitation of some of Mike Gwilym's characteristics, it is their individual talents that show through the outrageous costuming. Michael Williams, as Mike Gwilym's presumed wife, convincingly harries Mr Rees into the house to dinner and into bed, scarcely letting a look slip past her without winningly telegraphing it to the audience.

There is such talent in the company and there are enough clever bits of business, enough stylish dispirited and such witty modern readings of Shakespeare's words that it is really unnecessary for Mr Nunn to provide such obvious gags as the one in which the gay goldsmith sits down in protest among the women while the men all stand. For the most part it is a joyful bazaar of comic invention clearly calculated to entertain. Though it is sometimes uncomfortable with Shakespeare's language, it certainly has the spirit of his play.



Pippa Guard and Judi Dench

Lynda Russell/Fiona Kimm  
Purcell Room

Barry Millington

By a happy chance the winner of this year's Kathleen Terner Memorial Prize have voices that blend almost to perfection. On Monday in the Purcell Room they followed up a joint recital broadcast by the BBC in September with a similar programme of songs and duets.

Lynda Russell, the soprano of the duo, has an affecting, enticing quality in her voice. Fiona Kimm contributes a rounded mezzo to the partnership, a rich tone and a range of expression beyond her years. In Purcell's duet *Elegy upon the Death of Queen Mary* with which they opened, the overlapping of the parts drew attention to the likeness of their timbres without making one feel that there was any lack of individuality.

Billy Budd  
New, Cardiff

Kenneth Loveland

It was with Michael Gelfo's production of *Billy Budd* in 1972 that the Welsh National started their run of successes in opera. Since then, more recent years have seen the company's revival on the opening night of the November season found Roger Butler's sets, rebuilt after last year's fire, again strongly evocative of the days of sail, and Mr Gelfo's production one more distinguished by the realism with which it deals with the claustrophobic inner conflicts on HMS Indomitable, its sharply delineated procession of characters, and its careful build up and release of tensions.

A penetrating production of *Billy Budd* must take its emotional cues from the design of instrumental sonata, in which Britten takes Herman Melville's poem beyond the limitations of literature, giving nuances to their motivation that are denied by the confines of words, and the success of the Welsh production is that one is always aware of the relationship between a shifting dramatic emphasis and the changing colours of the orchestral textures.

Richard Armstrong secured playing from the Welsh Phil-

harmonia, which despite marginal appreciation drew attention to those orchestral strokes which cause the imagination to stir, such as the plaintive saxophone after the flogging, the illuminating sequence of chords as Vere invisibly tells the court's verdict, the hint of a slowly rocking sea watching outside when Vere and his officers meet in the captain's cabin, and the flickering woodwind in cold evil, and there are many other sketches in support.

Illness caused Nigel Douglas to make a late withdrawal, and Stuart Kels had to sing Vere with score in hand. It was a plucky effort, and whenever he could permit himself the freedom to expand, enough was heard to suggest that he should now be given a scheduled appearance.

Secret rituals from the Aborigines—David Gulpill in *The Last Wave*

## Paris Film Festival pursues its unconventional course

Now in its third year, the Paris Film Festival has firmly established its style, and sticks with reasonable fidelity to a declared policy of showing the new and unknown rather than simply offering previews of coming art-house products. This year the organizers achieved the considerable feat of duplicating no more than three or four of the 80 films selected by the London Film Festival, which follows immediately afterwards.

Paris is more concentrated than London. With five auditoria in the luxurious Empire Cinema in the Avenue Wagram screening continuously throughout the day, and additional market shows in three viewing theatres near by, there is little chance of patronising such far-flung side events as week-long tributes to Jacques Prévert, Raymond Queneau, John Cassavetes, Abel Gance, Marcel Marceau and the famous pianist, Paris art house, Studio des Ursulines.

This year's festival was particularly notable for films emerging from under various clouds. *The Mink Cycle*, directed by Dariusz Mejer, the American-educated Iranian director of *The Cow and The Postman*, has been banned by the censors since 1974, presumably on account of the very unflattering picture it affords of the lives of some of the Shah's subjects. The hero is a village lad who betrays his ailing and ailing father, and the city. Around the hospital he falls in with back-street racketeers trading in infected blood extracted on the cheap from drunks, junkies and sick and needy of the city. Cheerful, energetic and unimpaired by moral qualms, the boy quickly learns other ways, too, of getting rich as he goes, of using his father's fortune to his own advantage. It is a bitter tale about the inevitable corruption of innocence in an underprivileged society, told with vitality and a fine sense of narrative and character.

It is harder to see why Vera Chytilova's *The Apple Game* has had troubles with the Czech authorities (it was withdrawn from the Berlin festival of the Czech Film Renaissance that ended abruptly in 1968). A simpler explanation that has been suggested is that the Prague medical authorities objected to a comedy about the concurrent love affairs of an intern in a maternity hospital with the wife of a colleague and a young nurse. The doctor is played with a nice understated comedy by Jiri Menzel, who as director of *Closely Observed Trains* was himself one of the bright hopes of the last new wave.

The sensitivity of the Polish authorities to Krzysztof Zanussi's *Camouflage* seems only to have been temporary; and the film will now be seen at the London Festival, following Paris. It is a cool but fierce commentary on the politics of academic failure and success, examined in the microcosm of a university summer school. Originality and talent it seems, are less material than the ability to "camouflage" gifts which might be too exceptional for comfort to keep on the right side of the right people; and definitely not to get drunk and bite the rector's ear (which is how the brightest student in the school chooses to express his particular frustrations). Zanussi shows it as a situation not peculiar only to socialist systems; but there are rather sharp local references (not least the nostalgic yearning of one conformist for the happy days of 25 years ago, in other words, the high Stalinist era), which could explain a degree of official unease.

Another Polish film still apparently not allowed to compete in international festivals (it appeared in Paris only in a market screening) is the talented Marek Piwowski's *Is It True They Hit Hard Here?* On the surface this is an exceptionally good tale of crime and investigation—the tracking down of a smart young gangster who has built up an ingenious defence of alibi. At another level it sparkles with Piwowski's own quirky irony; and his scepticism about the methods in setting up agents provocateurs might well seem subversive in a society where the police are not as a rule open to too much question. Not the least quality of the film is that its actors are all non-professionals—two of the policemen being played by boxing champions.

Eastern Europe was very much on show. Maria Muszowska, whose *Adoption* was recently seen on television and whose *Nine Months* is in the London Festival, was in Paris with her latest film, *The Two of Them*, the tale of an early Mesozoic film. *Binding Sentiments*, seems appropriate to her ability to take the simplest relationships and explore them in absorbing detail and subtlety. Her new film is the story of a woman, charged of a hotel for working girls (Marina Vlady), who befriends a feckless girl (Lili Monori), from whom Joseph Returns and *Nine Months* were the most consistent record of all the socialist cinemas. Two films introduced new directors of exceptional promise. Ferenc Andras's *The Devil Beats His Wife* and *Marries His Daughter* were the most consistent record of all the socialist cinemas. Two films introduced new directors of exceptional promise. Ferenc Andras's *The Devil Beats His Wife* and *Marries His Daughter* were the most consistent record of all the socialist cinemas. Two films introduced new directors of exceptional promise.

of St Stephen than as the Day of the Constitution. A village family exert themselves to entertain a visiting bureaucrat; but the prime little puritan with his stomach ulcers is unable to find any common ground with the Breughel-like merry-makers, haggard and swilling the fruits of their labour. Istvan Darday's *Holidays in Britain* shares the same facility for comedy without caricature, though in his case it is achieved, remarkably, through the use of non-professional actors. The story is a simple, real-life anecdote about a schoolboy who is selected to join a party of children visiting England. His rather dim and helpless peasant parents are, however, too nervous to let him go, and remain impervious to the persuasions of teachers and officials, who in any case have selected the child without even knowing him. Darday's film is at once sharp and endearing, an odd mixture of exasperation and love for his foolish people.

A collaboration with West German television, *A Very Ordinary Life*, directed by Imre Gyöngyösi and Barna Kabay is a remarkable *cine ma vie* portrait of an old Hungarian peasant woman, Veronika Kiss, who preserves intact the values and the nobility of a long-vanished way of life. At the time the film was made, Veronika had coolly decided that before she died she would accomplish two Herculean tasks—to plough the field and to visit her son in England. Having won her total trust, the film-makers follow with moving intimacy her strenuous effort to accomplish the second ambition.

Paris instituted prizes for the first time, and the main award was shared between *The Mink Cycle* and the Canadian Allan King's *Who Has Seen the Wind*, a somewhat sweet and astringent story of growing up during the Depression in a little Saskatchewan town. A merited Special Jury Prize was given to an Australian film, Peter Weir's *The Last Wave*. The gift for atmosphere that was already evident in *The Cars That Ate Paris* and *Picnic at Hanging Rock* is here seen fully realized, in a story of fear and the occult.

Weir's conception and writing raise the film far above the level of films of *The Exorcist* genre. The story is firmly and factually based on Aborigine lore (Weir had the aid of Aborigine organizations); and a leading player, a majestic old man called Nandjiwarra

Amagula, M.B.E., is leader of a Groote Eylandt tribe)—notably the belief in a separate life and communication through dreams. The intense atmosphere of menace is created not out of horrors, but familiar elements—hallstorm, rain, wind, clouds, floods, waves. The leading players are Richard Chamberlain, who conveys admirably the "special vulnerability" of the young lawyer defending a group of Aborigines charged with murder, and David Gulpill (the boy from Nicholas Roeg's *Walkabout*) as the young Aborigine who provides him with a link to the secret rituals that lie behind the killing.

*Boxer* is the first collision of the Japanese *enfant terrible* Shuji Terayama with the commercial cinema. Since he debuts as a sports writer (as well as avant-garde film-maker, poet, novelist and theatre director) Terayama must have seemed the natural choice for a producer who wanted a poor man's *Rocky*. Terayama gave him rather more: in a film shot and edited in five weeks (the premiere was advertised before *Boxer* was even begun) Terayama has succeeded remarkably in grafting together the archetypal boxing melodrama with his own bizarre underworld of pained whores, pimps, beggars and broken-down dandies, who act as a chorus to the story.

Of the home product, much was expected of Chris Marker's *Le Fond de l'air est rouge*, dedicated to the notion that the Third World War has already been waged for 10 years, from Vietnam to Chile and beyond. The theme is wide and vague; and though Marker has assembled remarkable documents (American propaganda films about Vietnam; remarkable coverage of Chile) he lacks the skill of a Marcel Ophüls to explore a coherent thesis through images.

As to Jean Eustache's *Une Sale Histoire*, it was apparently just that—a voyeur's dirty story told twice, once by Michel Lonsdale, once by non-professional actors. I say "apparently" because every performance of the film was packed in advance by scandal-seekers; and the only time I managed to get into the theatre it was to be promptly thrown out by a big firmman observing safety regulations. More successful colleagues were consoling: the theatrical exercise, they said, was thin; and the dirty talk small compensation.

David Robinson

## What's behind football violence?

Panorama  
BBC 1

Michael Church

Many people find football violence exciting. Guilty middle-class socialists loved it in the sixties. Sociologists have long made territorial claims on it. The media have, frankly, thrived upon it. So was Charles Wheeler's inaugural *Panorama* simply following the trend?

No. *F-Troop*, *Treatment* and the *Half-Way Line*, which looked at the rules and values prevalent among the terrace gangs at Millwall, was a serious and subtle piece of reporting which the BBC would be wise to build on.

David Taylor, the reporter, quickly established what the Millwall supporters were interested in. Their team (not the players, stupid!) were nationally known as "hard". You wave your scarf and cheer but the real thing, the ritual, is a set of pezzers. "People are frightened of us all over England."

From the Half-Way Line you graduate, if you understand it correctly, to *Treatment* and *F-Troop*. Police fines, which you may not pay, act as rungs on the ladder. You are fiercely loyal,

fiercely xenophobic, fiercely protective of your good name as a fearless fighter. You may call yourself Harry the Dog and carry out with kamikaze faith on stands full of enemy supporters. You may get hurt or arrested but you are invincibly jelly.

In fact, inside many of these fans there seem to be a soldier struggling to get out. Disgusted of Kitchener's repeated cries for more conscription might fall on willing ears just south of the river.

And here we came to it. A chubby National Front leader, on whose lips the word "robust" acquired a sick and sinister tone, pronounced his thoughtful verdict. "There's a but you can do with a soccer hooligan." Partridge, pro-British youngsters, and the club manager, who needs big wages to pay for his new centre forward, talks of driving the hooligans away.

We were told, in a postscript, that more money is to be spent in Millwall on participation sport for the fans: excellent. But nobody mentioned further education. The soldiers may indeed have to go and find themselves a war, but some among their confederates, earnest Mick, or driven Billy, need to go and find a college.

tested, however, for the music is full of the unexpected, and the balanced textures achieved on Monday were a credit to all concerned.

The *Choral Fantasia* dates from 1930, and the rest of the programme consisted of two further English works from that decade, each quite different. Ireland's *These Things Shall Be* is a setting of verses from a 15th-century John Addington Symonds, whose facile optimism no longer rings true (if it ever did). One does not associate Ireland with superficial ideas and the rough vigour of the music's best moments seems almost to contradict the words. That is most obviously the case in the long orchestral interlude between the first two verses, in which the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic shone.

Less compromising, however, is Vaughan Williams's *Donna nobis pacem*, very much the main work of the evening. Here the textures are larger, and a feeling of high drama is created immediately; the soloists were Sheila Armstrong and Benjamin Luxon, but it was the clarity of the choral singing that one admired most.

pronounced the extroversion, the greater the satisfaction.

Tracey has never quite managed to translate the idiosyncrasy of his piano-playing into his orchestral arrangements (a trick he always manages with his quartet). Regulated, perhaps, by the available range of tone colours, he allows the acute angles of his melodies to become blurred, while his own playing takes a back seat.

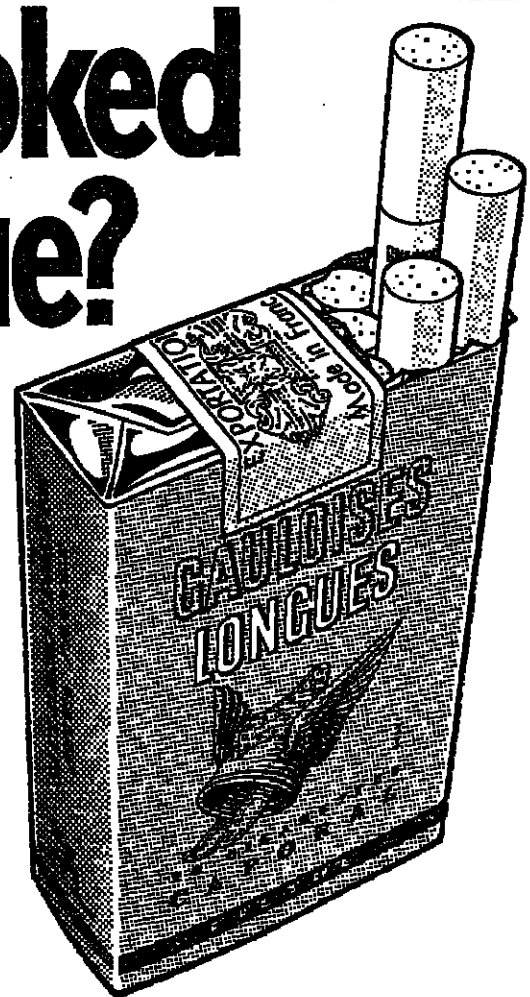
The new suite began with a rather uncomfortable Afro-Cuban section, meandered through a long ballad sequence and only reached climax in the long up-tempo finale, when the passionate young alto saxophone (Jeff Daly) was lost. Daly's improvisation, reminiscent of the late Julian Arderley, was surpassed by that of Don Weller, an enormous tenor saxophonist whose convivial humour and startling technique are cloaked in a soft, burly tone.

All the soloists were adeptly shadowed by an enthusiastic rhythm section whose drummer, Bryan Spring, sometimes allowed his effervescence to occlude his marvellous sense of swing.

The spectacular Rubens *Captives in Chains* is after a fresco by Francesco Salviati and is of special interest in view of the current exhibition in Cologne. Rubens in Italy, where it is now on show, and Professor Joffé's newly published book of the same title. A drawing by Rembrandt and other sheets by major artists also represent the Dutch and Flemish schools.

Drawings from  
museums at Angers

The *Finest Drawings from the Museums at Angers* is the title of the autumn exhibition at the Heim Gallery, London from November 23 until December 22. This exhibition, under the patronage of the French Ambassadors and Lord Donaldson, Minister for the Arts, con-

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**\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

[illegible]



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## Slower growth and rising unemployment forecast for OECD nations in 1978

By David Blake  
Economic Correspondent

Industrialized countries are heading for another year of slow growth in output and trade in 1978 with rising unemployment. Growth in gross domestic product during the second half of the year is expected to be down to an annual rate of 3 per cent for the 24 nations making up the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, according to forecasts prepared for a top-level meeting of officials next week.

The forecasts, prepared for a session of the Economic Policy Committee, are believed to show that after a slight acceleration in the pace of recovery in the first half of the year, there will be a very severe downturn in the most important OECD countries.

It is suggested that the target agreed by OECD ministers in June of 5 per cent growth during the year is likely to prove difficult, if not impossible, to attain.

These setbacks follow the failure of Western nations to reach the target of 6 per cent growth for 1977, which were formally endorsed by the meeting of seven heads of government in London in the spring.

The latest estimates, prepared by the OECD and discussed at a meeting of forecasters from national governments, say that growth in the United States is likely to run at an annual rate of 4 per cent in the first half of next

year and only 3 per cent in the second half of 1978.

Prospects of such a sharp setback to his hopes of reducing unemployment are placing great pressure on President Carter to speed up plans for large tax cuts in the United States.

But the American picture is, however, much brighter than the outlook for Europe, which has been performing much worse than the United States during 1977.

For Europe as a whole the growth rate is expected to rise from a 2 per cent annual rate in the second half of this year to 3 per cent in the first half of 1978 before falling to around 2.5 per cent in the second half. The slight acceleration in the first half of next year reflects the initial impact of recently announced changes, most notably in Germany.

The pessimistic outlook for the German economy seems once again to be bringing criticism of the Bonn Government to the surface. German growth is expected to be at an annual rate of 3 per cent in the second half of 1977, and only 2.5 per cent in the second half of next year.

German officials seem to have made it clear in talks that they see no obvious scope for further stimulatory action.

The Japanese, who are also expected to perform badly, do, on the other hand, seem to have been more prepared to consider further stimulus.

There is a growing feeling that the revaluation of the currencies of these countries has done little to help the overall world outlook.

Although a stronger yen and mark may, in time, reduce the surpluses which these countries run, the most immediate effect is to cut prospects for employment in their exporting industries, thus reducing domestic demand. For revaluation to be effective, it is argued, it must be accompanied by stimulatory policy at home.

Because of the depressive effects of domestic policies, it is thought that world trade must grow by about 4 per cent next year, well below the assumption on which the Treasury has based its forecasts for the British economy.

For Britain the forecasters see a continuing slowdown unless policies are changed, though this impression owes much to the fact that OECD uses a forecast period which suggests more rapid growth in the second half of this year than appears from most models.

The forecast is thought to be that in the second half of 1977 growth will be at an annual rate of around 3 per cent, falling to 3 per cent in the first half of next year and 2 per cent in the second half.

Growth on this scale would not be enough to prevent unemployment rising, though the expected spring Budget announcement of tax cuts would lead to some increase.

## Conference backs voluntary legal framework for employer participation CBI's anti-Bullock stand approved

By Donald MacIntyre  
Labour Reporter

Confederation of British Industry leaders yesterday won endorsement for their plans for voluntary company agreements on employee participation. A resolution reaffirming the CBI's outright opposition to the Bullock report was passed by a big majority at its first conference in Brighton.

Viscount Caldecote, chairman of Delta Metals, who proposed the motion, said that the Bullock proposals were not about greater involvement by workers so much as about "trade union power".

The proposals, however, which were approved yesterday and set out in the CBI document *Britain Means Business 1977*—leave it to firms to work out their own plans for participation agreements on a voluntary basis.

Viscount Caldecote said that "some legal support" would be required but that he hoped it would be seldom invoked. An attempt by Mr Richard Pustick, the chairman of the Taylor Woodrow group, to commit the conference to a rejection of the CBI's proposals on these grounds was not taken up.

None of the speakers opposed the inclusion of a clause in the document, and TUC leaders may interpret the support for the CBI's own proposals at yesterday's con-

ference as an encouraging omen for some move towards a legal framework for participation at its first conference in Brighton.

The TUC is still expecting the Government to produce a White Paper on industrial democracy by Christmas, and their hopes may be marginally increased by the fact that the CBI has not been forced by its members to eliminate any reference to legislation.

Overall the TUC has maintained a discreet interest in the CBI's proceedings by sending an official observer Mr David Lea, an assistant general secretary designate, to Brighton.

Mr Lea indicated yesterday that he would be reporting to the General Council on the CBI conference.

The main point on which the CBI is now mandated to seek agreement with the TUC, as well as with the Government, is its proposals on pay determination, which will be modified as a result of the weight of the opposition to them in Monday's session.

Mr Lea said yesterday that the likely forum for this would be the series of occasional liaison meetings.



Viscount Caldecote: hoped "legal support" would be seldom invoked.

## Scrap merchants 'in for a grim year'

By Edward Townsend

Britain's ferrous scrap merchants, faced with a major decline in demand from the beleaguered British Steel Corporation, are now "in for a very grim 12-18 months", it was said yesterday.

Mr Eric Cross, president of the British Scrap Federation, said demand had dropped to the extent that "most of us will be going round with a begging bowl before long".

Consumption of home-bought scrap was down by only 42,000 tonnes in the third quarter but there was a drop in scrap stocks at steel works of 114,000 tonnes. This resulted in a drop in purchases of home produced scrap of nearly 160,000 tonnes during the quarter.

According to the federation, the shortfall has been due to reduced intake by iron foundries and the start of the BSC effort to reduce stocks in accordance with government policy. The State-owned steel undertaking's stocks are being run down to about 30 per cent of their normal level.

The BSC's curbs were likely to be compounded by the first quarter of next year, said Mr Cross, and coming after a long period of reducing demand and falling prices was bound to have a serious effect on the whole of the scrap industry.

"The market weakness is world wide so alternative outlets for United Kingdom scrap merchants will be difficult to find," he said.

Mr Cross wrote: "Scrap steel union leaders last night enlisted the aid of the British parliamentary group of Labour MPs in their fight to frustrate closure proposals for British Steel plants in their area."

Mr Arthur Bell, divisional organizer of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and Mr Sandy Stevenson, the union's president, gave warning of the

political consequences of shutting down plants in western Scotland where unemployment was already high in a Labour-voting area vulnerable to the political advance of the Scottish nationalists.

"We have already lost 4,000 jobs", said Mr Bell, "and if the corporation has its way we stand to lose another 3,000. But it is not just a question of losing jobs. We lose the ability to provide Scottish industry with its basic requirements."

In my view, the issue should be taken out of the hands of Varley and Scholey, and put into the Cabinet. It should become a real government issue. We want to hear what they have to say about the closures."

His remarks came on the eve of today's meeting of the ISC executive, at which the British Steel request for union cooperation in the run-down of high-cost plants and labour shedding will be discussed.

Scottish plants have sent telegrams to Mr Bill Sirs, the union's general secretary, telling him: "Scrap firm—will strike if necessary."

Plants believed to figure in BSC's closure package are Clyde Bridge, open hearth and primary mill; Dalzell, Lanarkshire, open hearth; Ravenscroft, open hearth; and Dalzell, open hearth and primary mill.

The steel union leaders, who were accompanied by Mr Jimmy Miller, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, also urged that the embargo in new investment should be lifted to allow expansion at Hunterston, including a new electric arc furnace, to go ahead.

Mr Bell said the union took "strong exception" to the corporation's tactic of offering "demoralizing" severance pay

## NEB strategic plans likely to be kept secret

By Edward Townsend

The long-awaited corporate plan of the National Enterprise Board, to be used by the Government as the yardstick in assessing its future performance, is now expected before the end of this year, but its general publication is highly unlikely.

Submission of the plan by the NEB to the Department of Industry has been delayed because of uncertainty about the future of British Leyland, the board's chief subsidiary. But it is felt that the recent acceptance by Leyland workers of the pay bargaining reform scheme and the appointment of a new full-time chairman allow the NEB to put the final touches to its future strategy.

Mr Leslie Huchfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, has said that as most of the corporate plan is likely to be commercially confidential he would need to "consider very carefully" with the NEB whether publication would be appropriate.

Certainly, the board will argue that its strategy should remain secret. The NEB's draft guidelines, published in March, last year, there was no requirement for publication of the corporate plan.

The guidelines stated that the preparation and review of the corporate plan would provide the framework for discussions with the Department of Industry in terms of financial objectives, employment, improvements in efficiency or exports. Performance over the year would be assessed in the light of agreed objectives.

The NEB is required under the guidelines to provide annually an investment and financing programme, covering the period of the Public Ex-

penditure Survey, for consideration by the Department and the Treasury.

Details of the NEB's operations which have been announced include the disclosure in the Commons on Monday that since its inception it has sought the approval of the Department of Industry for the disposal of five investments, one of which was refused.

Two of the approvals have not been acted upon by the board: the third was for a disposal by one of the board's subsidiaries where the proceeds were to be used for the acquisition of a company in the commercial reasons: the fourth, referring to the sale of Dufford and Elliott, resulted in a gross profit to the board of £161,131.

Meanwhile, the NEB is negotiating to take over the aviation interests of the Fairey engineering group which went into receivership a month ago.

The board has made clear that it is not interested in the aviation side of the Fairey business and that it is keen to acquire the remaining part of the group without the involvement of a partner.

Fairey creditors: Creditors of Fairey Gosselies, the Belgian subsidiary of Fairey Aviation agreed to accept a legal settlement of the company's liabilities with one exception, Mr Alain Deliege, president of the commercial court said.

The exception is First National Citibank (Belgium), a subsidiary of Citicorp, which asked for the eight days allowed under Belgian law to consider its position.

Mr Deliege told the court the Belgian company, which has been under court-controlled management since September, has assets of 1,500m francs and debts totaling at least 1,450m francs. Final figures still had to be worked out.

## Yen's leap halted at 245.5 to dollar

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, Nov 15

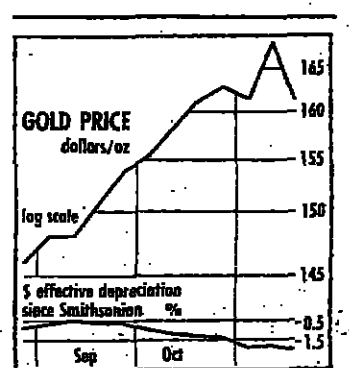
Rapid appreciation of the yen was halted today by the Bank of Japan as its highest postwar value of 245 to the dollar when interbank trading opened this morning.

As the soaring value of the yen threatened to undermine most of Japan's medium- and small-scale export industries this morning, the Bank of Japan suddenly purchased \$180m (£100m) to hold it to 245.5 to the dollar when trading closed.

Market sources claimed that today's turnover rose by \$450m, an increase of \$224m against yesterday's level in interbank trade.

In real terms the floating yen now represents a 15.4 per cent revaluation of Japan's currency since the beginning of the year. At the same time the subsequent high cost of living in Tokyo is likely to drive out many European business executives.

Western diplomats suggested. The yen's sudden appreciation also means that the value of sterling has declined by almost 15 per cent against it since the Smithsonian rate was established in December, 1971. Commercial banks were today purchasing sterling at the rate of yen 338.5 to the pound as its value rose.



Gold dropped \$4 on the London market yesterday to close at \$161.375 an ounce. The price reached a two-year high at the time of last week, after being run up on fairly weak buying. The \$625.29 price then has come with heavy selling as some profits have been taken.

Based on the new value of the yen, butchers in Tokyo were selling prime Kobe beef at £24 a pound.

Providing medium and minor Japanese exporters with another shock today, the respected and reliable Yamachi Research Institute predicted that the yen's value would advance to 230 to the dollar next year when Both Yamachi and the Mitsubishi Bank suggested that while some sectors of industry might lose their competitive

edge on international markets, the sharp appreciation of the yen is not likely to reduce Japan's huge trade surplus by a significant margin.

At the same time the Mitsubishi Bank suggested that its high value was likely to reduce the value of exports by 3 per cent, but prices would rise 9 per cent and raise the trade surplus by an additional \$61,800m at the end of the current fiscal year. If the bank is correct, Japan's total trade surplus would surpass \$170,000m.

Under the basic logic of economics, the yen's appreciation should lead to an increase in Japan's imports, a slackening of exports and subsequently a reduction in Tokyo's huge trade surplus with the world. But according to the Yamachi Research Institute, the rising yen is likely to touch off a trade war in the opposite direction. According to the institute's analysis, imports will not increase because industrial production, which consumes 70 per cent of Japan's imports—raw materials and semi-finished goods—will remain flat.

At the same time the institute is convinced that the nation's major exporters, such as the car and electronics industries, will remain their competitive edge on international markets.

Other industries, hit by the recession, will continue to export at below-cost prices to keep their plants operating, the institute claims.

## 400 Courtaulds jobs to go in yarn plant closure

By Christopher Wilkins

Courtaulds, which is involved in negotiations to sell its main yarn producing plant at Aintree, Liverpool, is closing a yarn processing plant in Nuneaton which employs 400.

After the formation last month of a joint consultancy committee, including union management and outside representatives, Courtaulds has given notice of closure to all the workers under the 90-day notice procedure. The factory which processes the group's man-made fibre yarns for use by weavers will shut at the beginning of February, but Courtaulds is hopeful of finding work for about 100 people at nearby plants.

Closure has become necessary because the plant has been overtaken by technology and its

problems have been aggravated by the fibres recession and substantial over-capacity.

In a statement accompanying its half year results yesterday, Courtaulds gave a warning that "the future of some operations remains under review". It is presently seeking a Temporary Employment Subsidy at its Aintree plant, where more than 2,000 are employed, but has said that without the subsidy it will be forced to cut back.

The group reported profits up from £21.8m to £27.9m, but noted that, although results for the second half could show some improvement over the first, the results for the full year are expected to fall short of 1976/77. Courtaulds shares fell 3p after the news to 30p.

Financial Editor, page 27

## Leyland to close its London HQ

British Leyland is to close its headquarters in Marylebone Road, London, and move many of the staff to the offices of Leyland Cars and Leyland International in the Midlands.

A phased shutdown will be announced today by Mr Michael Edwards, the executive chairman. He will also outline a new corporate structure and name the boards of the four operating subsidiaries.

More detailed changes affecting the main problem area—Leyland Cars—will be dealt with at a later date. There are expected to be some notable omissions from the new board of Leyland Cars, which Mr Edwards will chair himself.

placed executives are being earmarked for new responsibilities in the sub divisions which, it is understood, will be created later to cover small cars, medium cars, large specialist

and sports cars and parts and servicing.

It was also expected that Mr John McKay, Mr Edwards' former public relations chief at Chrysler and now his personal assistant, will assume responsibilities for the whole of the group's public relations.

Closure of the Marylebone office block has been mooted since it became known within the company that most of Leyland International's 300 staff were preparing to move to new headquarters adjoining Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.

European division is already established there. In London Mr Edwards will run the corporation from the much smaller Nuffield House in Piccadilly. He has taken over

the office until recently occupied by Lord Stokes, the group's president and former chairman.

The news was of another setback to Leyland Cars' plans to introduce group-wide wage bargaining. Last week the TUC economic affairs committee ruled that the group must abide by the 12-months' rule, and yesterday shop stewards representing 14,000 craftsmen and 3,000 rebel toolmakers decided to join forces in a campaign for separate negotiating rights for skilled workers.

Talks were continuing last night at Ford's Halewood plant to try to end two disputes which have stopped production of the Escort and made 6,500 men idle.

This action has stopped deliveries of gearboxes for the Transit van assembly line at Southampton and the Cortina line at Dagenham.

## Britain agrees terms of Polish ships deal

By Our Industrial Staff

Agreement on the details of a £115m Anglo-Polish shipbuilding contract has been reached and the formal signing is expected to take place in London next week.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, is expected to sign the contract on behalf of the Government. The deal will provide Britain's depressed shipyards with orders for 24 ships.

Negotiations on the contract have been prolonged because of hard bargaining over the Polish share of equipment for the ships. Originally this was to be 5 per cent of the total but now is believed to be nearer 8 per cent.

Mr Michael Casey, chief executive of British Shipbuilders, who has conducted the negotiations with the Poles, returned to the United Kingdom last week encouraged by the progress made in reaching agreement.

Among the sticking points has been the responsibility for supplying engines for the ships.

Agreement now appears to have been reached on the basis that some of the propulsion units for the larger vessels in the contract will be made in Poland and most of those for the smaller ships will be built in the United Kingdom under licence.

The deal is being subsidised by a grant of almost £30m from the Government's shipbuilding intervention fund.

The Poles have also been offered 70 per cent credit, the remainder to be arranged by individual shipbuilders.

Once the contract has been signed, British Shipbuilders is expected to announce which yards will build the ships. It is expected that hard-pressed yards on Tyne and at Clydebank will be favoured.

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## Oil starts flowing from the Claymore field

Another oilfield in the British sector of the North Sea came on stream yesterday. The oil was flowing from the Claymore field, 80 miles north-east of Aberdeen—the fastest developed major field so far according to Occidental Petroleum.

It was announced that oil was now flowing from a production platform to the Flora terminal in the Orkney Islands. "Six of the planned 36 wells have been completed at Claymore to date, and production by the end of 1977 is expected to be between 60,000 and 80,000 barrels a day, increasing to around 160,000 barrels a day by early 1979," a statement said.

Consultants have estimated the reserves of recoverable oil from the Claymore field at 410 million barrels.

Occidental, the operator, has a 36.5 per cent interest, Getty Oil (Britain) 23.5 per cent, Allied Chemical (GB) 20 per cent, and Thomson North Sea 20 per cent.

## How the markets moved

The Times index: 206.02 - 2.51  
The FT index: 487.9 - 8.8

**Rises**  
Bk Leumi Israel 4p to 25p  
Brown Shipley 5p to 205p  
Glenlivet Dist 30p to 335p  
Hunting Gibson 10p to 250p

**Falls**  
Bishop's Stores 15p to 205p  
Alcoa 10p to 89p  
Courtaulds 3p to 105p  
Dunbar Road 12p to 294p  
Fisons 15p to 375p  
GKN 10p to 265p  
Kwik Save 6p to 192p  
Kinnross 30p to 270p  
Lucas Ind 15p to 265p

Equities lost ground. Gilt-edged stocks retreated. Dollar advanced 10 pips cent (effective rate 29.15 per cent). Sterling was unchanged at \$1.8160. The effective exchange rate index was at 63.7.

**On other pages**  
Business appointments 28  
Appointments vacant 10, 31  
Wall Street 30  
Bank Base Rates Table 30

**THE POUND**  
Bank buys Bank sells  
Australia 5 1.66 1.61  
Austria Sch 30.75 28.75  
Belgium Fr 66.50 63.50  
Canada \$ 1.06 1.01  
Denmark Kr 11.45 11.05  
Finland Mk 7.80 7.55  
France Fr 9.06 8.76  
Germany Dm 4.25 4.04  
Greece Lr 75.50 72.50  
Hong Kong \$ 8.35 8.35  
Italy L 1630.00 1575.00  
Japan Y 470.00 445.00  
Netherlands Gld 4.58 4.36  
Norway Kr 10.25 9.50  
Portugal Esc 78.00 74.00  
S Africa Rd 1.76 1.64  
Spain Pes 157.00 151.00  
Sweden Kr 9.00 8.65  
Switzerland Fr 1.15 1.11  
US \$ 1.81 1.81  
Yugoslavia Dnr 39.00 36.25

Notes for small denomination bank notes only apply to the following currencies: Bank of England, Bank of France, Bank of Germany, Bank of Italy, Bank of Japan, Bank of the Netherlands, Bank of Norway, Bank of Portugal, Bank of Spain, Bank of Sweden, Bank of Switzerland, Bank of the United States, Bank of Yugoslavia.

Gold fell \$4 an ounce to \$161.375. SDR-E was 1.18003 on Monday while SDR-E was 0.649250.

Commodities: Rubber's index was at 1473.9 (previous 1463.7). Reports pages 29 and 30.

**Annual Statement:**  
Smiths Industries 29  
Interim Statements:  
Charter Consolidated 29

**Courtaulds** 27  
**Electra Investment Trust** 28  
**Royal Insurance** 28







BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Downgrading at Courtaulds

Trading results from Courtaulds are profoundly disturbing for the equity market. In July it was the first of the international majors to warn that profits and export prospects in particular were feeling much more of a squeeze than City analysts appreciated. Since then a steady flow of disappointing results have borne out Courtaulds' pessimism, and analysts have duly taken the axe to their profit forecasts. Now they may have to do so again.

Six months ago outside projections for Courtaulds profits this year were as high as £130m. After the warning estimates were downgraded to around £100m and, with the pound still strengthening, they have latterly been lowered again to around £85m-£90m. It is clear that even these forecasts are too high. Courtaulds' first half results have duly achieved the company's own projection with a 28 per cent improvement to £27.9m. But much of the increase reflects closures from the previous year, and Courtaulds says "the results for the full year are expected to fall short of 1976-77", when it made £80.9m, left the market talking in terms of £60-£70m.



Sir Arthur Knight, chairman of Courtaulds.

There are good reasons why a simple line cannot be drawn through the results to those of other internationally-orientated companies. The fibres industry suffers outstandingly from overcapacity and depressed markets, and Courtaulds' brand of low margin, high volume operations are more vulnerable than many to even a modest strengthening of the pound.

The inescapable fact, however, is that, after a splendid showing last year, first half volume sales overseas, including exports, were lower than in the first six months of last year, even though Courtaulds is increasing market share virtually everywhere it sells. In such circumstances it is understandably keeping its new investment down to a minimum (at £27m in the first half spending was £5.9m below the depreciation charge) and is containing the rise in working capital as tightly as it can until profits revive.

Courtaulds' performance thus underlines just how slack the demand from European markets really is, which must raise new question marks for the profitability of other companies like ICI. As for Courtaulds' shares, at 109p they have underperformed the market by close to 50 per cent in the last 18 months, and with a yield of almost 10 per cent may at last begin to attract cheap buying.

### Insurance

#### Royal steadies nerves

Excellent third quarter results from Royal Insurance yesterday helped to steady nerves in the composite insurance sector following Monday's £74m cash call from Commercial Union.

Having dipped more than 10p at one point Royal closed just 2p lower last night at 393p after news of almost doubled pre-tax profits of £103.9m in the first nine months and a categorical denial from the group that it had even considered following CU's rights example.

By way of justification Royal points to the way it has managed to accommodate premium growth of almost 20 per cent to £936m, while managing to push the solvency ratio up a couple of points to around 44 per cent helped by a 26 per cent improvement in investment income to £83m.

Moreover, underwriting results have swung from a deficit of £14.9m to a surplus

of £17.8m helped by a significant improvement in the United States—where the operating ratio is now 101.4 against 105.6 a year ago—though the deficit there is still nearly £9m, and a substantial improvement in the United Kingdom to almost £13m partly due to the absence of major storms.

However there are still some question marks not least in Canada, where the group has so far decided not to make provisions for potential refunds to policyholders under anti-inflation rules. Although a nine-month surplus of £13m should be cut back to around £9m as a result of the traditionally bleak fourth quarter forced refunds may yet make a deep hole in 1978 results. At the same time Royal as the leading United Kingdom commercial fire insurer is more vulnerable than most to the firemen's dispute.

Meanwhile despite Royal's statements, the market is bound to remain deeply suspicious that the group will take advantage of a funding opportunity before the underwriting cycle begins to top out towards the end of next year.

Though with a flood of CU paper the market will presumably ignore Royal's attractions—likely profits of around £130m pre-tax for a p/e ratio of under 8 and a prospective yield of almost 6 per cent.

### Chloride

#### Strike damage

British Leyland's new chairman, Mr Michael Edwards, leaves Chloride's chair after what he admits has been a "shocking" year. Profits are £7.22m pre-tax, against outside expectations ranging as high as £12m for the first half.

A nine-week strike at two British factories cost £3m in profit but, more disturbingly, Chloride ran into problems in the United States—where profits were down by £1.5m, due to tough price competition and management problems, apparently now resolved.

Nevertheless, Chloride has gained a contract to supply Ford with 10 per cent of the original batteries in the United States, and there was only a minor contribution from this in the first half. Margins are of course tight on such business, but it may give Chloride a useful cache in the United States replacement market.

Chloride will need growth in excess of 20 per cent in the second half to match last year's profit and that appears to be asking for too much even with the United Kingdom dispute settled. So a prospective yield of just under 8 per cent with the share at 99p, and, at best, a p/e ratio of 10 leaves little to

● At the nine month stage trading at Philips Lamp is about as resilient as could be expected in the light of the state of the international economy. But the real spinner in the works so far as earnings are concerned is the strength of the guild.

Thus volume sales are some 7 per cent ahead at £121.9m although there has been some slackening in the third quarter for industrial supplies. Consumer products have been dull although a better performance in North America, the United Kingdom (which perhaps helps to explain the group's seemingly odd behaviour over "Electronic Rentals"), France and Spain has offset a downturn in the rest of western Europe. But the strength of the guild has trimmed back the sales gain to only 2 per cent.

Even so with further staff rationalization and stock adjustments net profit after nine months is up from £135m to £147m but the group warns that earlier hopes of an increase in profits as a percentage of sales depends on end-year currency adjustments.

For the full year, Philips looks as though it should make around £160m net profit for earnings on the Philips accounting basis of around £14, although somewhat lower on a United States accounting basis. Even with no increase in last year's £1.6 dividend the yield at £127 is still a healthy enough 6 per cent for European investors. But the shares have done nothing either in Amsterdam or London all year despite superficially attractive ratings and there is still nothing to get excited about at Philips in the immediate outlook.

Yesterday the British Steel Corporation lost well over 10p. Today it will be the same, and tomorrow likewise.

In its present financial year its losses are now running at a rate of £10m a week.

It is against the background of panic talks with steel unions that on Thursday of next week Sir Charles Villiers, the chairman, is to present the state-owned corporation's half-yearly results.

Some agonizing decisions confront the Government. Mass sackings and a measure of an already postponed investment programme are threatened in this new test of the Cabinet's capacity to undertake the unpleasant. The facts of British Steel's financial plight are a stark reality and it is cold consolation that other steel makers around the world are racked by problems, too.

Whatever the international dimensions of these problems, and there is no lack of diplomatic activity at the highest levels—something has to be done about British Steel. The corporation is now plundering its borrowed money to pay men's wages in order to produce steel at a loss of £23 for every ton.

The situation is sufficiently desperate for the Department of Industry to be drafting a new Bill (Borrowing Powers) Bill for the present session. This emergency measure is all the more alarming in that Parliament agreed under four months ago to raise the limit on the corporation's debt from £3,000m to £4,000m.

At that time MPs were incorrectly advised by ministers that steel would be sold at a loss of £23 for every ton.

Stripped of normal Whitehall pretence, British Steel is bankrupt, supported only by massive external borrowings and its chairman's desperate pleas. Since April it has had no financial target and little prospect of breaking even in 1978-79, given no sign of any upturn in de-

mand and little prospect of economic pricing while Europe, the United States and Japan squabble over competitive imports.

In 1975-76 British Steel had a breathtaking loss of £225m, but soothing words indicated that it would break even in the following year. The eventual result was a £95m loss, which would have been far greater but for last minute economies.

In April the corporation was allocating £2,285m against statutory limits of £3,000m on borrowing and by the summer it was being given more head room with an extension to £4,000m. Confidential figures indicated that by April 1978, the corporation would have £3,200m of outstanding statutory borrowing, but it was expecting to generate sufficient internal resources next year to reach its new ceiling of £4,000 before 1979.

A decision to bring forward a new borrowing powers Bill implies both a miscalculation of the corporation's needs and the hope of better times to come. Parliament will not stand for this and that is why an attempt to raise the limit on the corporation's debt from £3,000m to £4,000m is inevitable.

The taxpayer is deeply involved, for the Government has adopted the principle of supplying public dividend capital at the rate of 55 per cent of the

Maurice Corina

## Steel: decisions that cannot be put off

'There is no reason why heavy investment cannot continue, if it is realistic in terms of future capacity and supported by accelerated closures'

mand and little prospect of economic pricing while Europe, the United States and Japan squabble over competitive imports.

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The taxpayer is deeply involved, for the Government has adopted the principle of supplying public dividend capital at the rate of 55 per cent of the

corporation's medium and long-term borrowing, which include subventions from the National Loans Fund. The taxpayer is entitled not only to question what return he is getting for the so-called equity type of Treasury funding (BSC is supposed to pay dividends from its profits), but also to challenge the corporation's ability to perform.

Capital raised internally over its 10-year life is not much over £1600m and certainly in the past few years losses have exceeded depreciation alone by more than 100m. At the same time market share has been lost over this period.

Out-of-date plans are also being kept open longer, thanks to the Beswick review, than economically justified, at a cost of £60m plus per year. Some £1,000m in the next few years will be tied up in modernization projects that can earn no revenue for some time, yet add greatly to interest charges.

The justification for this last point is, of course, the need to put the industry into better shape to compete using more efficient and well sited mills and back-up facilities. Somehow, British Steel has to keep spending on capital projects while its many units, under stress, resist drastic downsizing, given the present unemployment.

But when and how the industry will be reorganized—its labour strength is said to be 60,000 higher than required

for low cost steel-making—remains a baffling question. Even before the urgent review now taking place in Whitehall some £500m had to be pruned for 1977-78 and 1978-79 off investment programmes, which in the next five years are scheduled to cost £1,600m.

An original 10-year modernization blueprint has a 15-year one, and the production target of 35,000,000 metric tonnes of steel has been revised to 30,000,000 tonnes. Last year the corporation sold 20,000,000 tonnes with a break-even target of 24,000,000 tonnes, in a depressed market.

The world recession is continuing longer than steel manufacturers round the globe expected and clearly the Government is entitled to ask both British Steel and its unions to review the realism of present planning and the huge costs of maintaining uneconomic plant. Such a review will need to look at capacity, for Europe is now operating at only 60 per cent of present capacity and the United States at 80 per cent (the figure is falling) while Japan, at 70 per cent, has taken counter-measures to safeguard its hyper-efficient industry's potential.

Of course, British Steel's difficulties must be seen against a worldwide crisis that cries out for international action before protectionism, now rearing its head in the United States, breaks out. Britain's steel losses per tonne are not so bad, say, as for the Sidmar plant of Cock-

erills in Belgium (where McKissack, the management consultant, are busy) or the Saccor and Usinor mills in France.

In Germany, big losses are being made and Italsider's difficulties in Italy are well known. Both in the United States is in a bad way.

Nonetheless, British Steel's finances and manpower cannot be attributed solely to problems beyond its control. Japan has just shut down her last two open hearths, for example, while British steel is now re-furnishing three at Shotton for £4m or so. Offers by unions to cooperate in cost-saving exercises have proved of little consequence, if helpful.

The point has been reached where closures and restructuring decisions by unions as well as management have to be taken. There is no reason why heavy investment cannot continue, if it is obviously realistic in terms of future capacity and supported by accelerated closures.

Working out the details imposes a duty on the unions to well as the management and the Government to safeguard British steel-making for an eventual revival in demand.

But that does not mean defending every obsolescent and previously repressed plant out of blind loyalty to union members. It does mean active help in working new plans and systems, which have an obvious future. In this, Sheffield has a better record than South Wales.

Mr Bill Sims, chairman of the TUC steel industry committee and leader of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the biggest union, is confronted with an offer of generous redundancy compensation for shutting 12 "Beswick" plants kept going after the last review led by Lord Beswick, then a minister. The sting is that British Steel wants to press on with "re-loading" its mills and other works. In order to meet depressed orders go to the most economic facilities. That implies that more than just Beswick plants would close.

Into this situation will step Mr Varley and an early settlement has become vital before speculation becomes too wild and the attitudes of men faced with renewed uncertainty about their jobs harden into damaging confrontation.

## Hydro-electric projects put life in S America's heart

Late last month Argentina and Brazil already exploiting the middle Paraná. At Itaipu, just 220 miles upstream from Yaciretá-Apité and 10 miles from the Argentine frontier, it is building the world's largest hydro-electric complex with Paraguay.

Itaipu dwarfs Yaciretá-Apité. It is a \$7,000m, 12,700 MW project and the first of its 18 giant turbines will start generating in 1983. Last month work began on diverting the river and laying the dam's concrete foundations.

Itaipu will make Brazil's south and south-west a rich area of agro-industrial development which could draw neighbouring Paraguay and Uruguay under its economic and political influence.

To avoid the threat of isolation, as well as to exploit its own share of the Paraná and develop its forgotten North-east, Argentina's military government has been making up for lost time in getting Yaciretá-Apité under way. For the same reasons it is pressing ahead with controversial plans for a second and larger hydro-electric project on the Rio Uruguay at Corpus, 60 miles above Yaciretá-Apité and 170 miles below Itaipu.

To be built by 1989, Corpus is projected as part of a series of large-scale hydro-electric developments. Other projects up to the year 2000 include a 1,800MW compensating dam below Yaciretá-Apité at Ita Itaipu, a large complex on the lower Paraná and three joint ventures with Brazil on the Rio Uruguay totalling 6,000MW.

To the west similar projects with Paraguay on the Pilcomayo and Bermejo Rivers are possible. But Corpus is proving a bone of contention between Argentina and Brazil. Para-

guay has still to approve the project and its realization depends on Brazilian good will. Corpus would be near enough to Itaipu for the projects to threaten each other's capacity.

Ever since Brazil proposed Itaipu 10 miles from her frontier Argentina pressed for prior consultations as a downriver state. The principle was endorsed by the United Nations, but Brazil cited "absolute sovereignty" and went ahead with a project vital to offset its giant oil import bill.

Only energetic diplomacy by the new Argentine government recently persuaded Brazil to discuss "harmonization" of the projects. A decision is expected by the end of the year and the future of Corpus depends upon it.

Argentina hopes that Brazil will accept a nearly full-scale Corpus and a somewhat reduced Itaipu compensated for with cash or energy. This

way, the Argentines believe, the 280-mile stretch of the Paraná can be exploited to its maximum, for the benefit of all three states, through four mutually regulating dams.

If this occurs, the three countries could squeeze at least 20,000MW of fairly cheap renewable energy out of the middle Paraná.

Madison development is particularly in Paraguay's interest as partner in each of the projected dams. While Brazil or Argentina provide the finance and know-how, Paraguay will own half the energy and its future largely depends on exporting this.

It was a hopeful sign that Paraguay recently refused Brazil's request to switch its national grid from its 50 hertz cycle to Brazil's 60 hertz. Brazil will now have to install half Itaipu's 18 turbines at 50 hertz and the rest at 60, leaving Paraguay free to export some

of its energy to Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia at 50 hertz. Had Paraguay doubted Argentina's decision and ability to build Corpus and Yaciretá-Apité it would probably not have doubted Brazil. Brazil's refusal to listen to Argentina's protests about Itaipu because of scepticism about its southern neighbour's seriousness. But the military government's ban on Yaciretá-Apité and its arguments for rational exploitation of the Paraná may be changing all that.

As a result, there is now a strong possibility that the heart of South America will be transformed into a major energy producer and development area and that Argentina will start rediscovering the path to development and progress from which it wandered a generation ago.—Reuter.

Andrew Tarnowski

## COURTAULDS

### Interim Profit and Dividend

The Board has declared an interim dividend in respect of the 1977/78 year amounting to 2.478p per 25p Ordinary Share of which 0.070p per Share is in respect of profits earned in the year to March 1977, and arises from the reduction in the rate of A.C.T. This dividend, together with the imputed tax credit amounts to 3.754p (1976-3.317p) and will be paid on 13th January 1978 to the Ordinary Shareholders registered in the books of the Company as at the close of business on 15th November 1977. The cost of the interim dividend after deducting A.C.T. is £6.8m (1976-£5.9m).

Unaudited results for the first six months of the 1977/78 financial year are:-

1st Half 1976/77	1st Half 1977/78
£m	£m
602.4	786.3
315.1	378.0
178.6	203.1
53.1	60.8
31.3	32.9
21.8	27.9
	Less: Taxation
3.8	U.K. (Including A.C.T. £3.5m - 1976/77 £3.3m not immediately recoverable) 3.9
4.0	Overseas 4.4
7.8	8.3
14.0	19.6
4.6	3.4
9.4	Courtaulds Shareholders' Interest 16.2
0.1	Less: Preference Dividends 0.1
9.3	Courtaulds Ordinary Shareholders' Interest 16.1

Changes in the sterling value of overseas net assets will be dealt with in the year end accounts. At the exchange rates applicable on 30th September, 1977 there was a deficit of £6m.

U.K. sales volume increased marginally, but the volume of sales overseas, including exports, was lower than that in the first six months of last year. Trading results are in line with those forecast in July, and reflected last year's closure of some activities which had been making losses.

£17m was spent on new fixed assets and £35m on increased working capital. Cash resources were reduced by £17m compared with £85m during the same period last year.

Trading conditions remain difficult both at home and overseas, and export results continue to be affected adversely by the increased external value of sterling. The future of some operations remains under review. There are other uncertainties, including the possibility of further industrial disruption in pursuit of pay claims not justified by increased productivity.

For these reasons, although trading results for the second half could show some improvement over those of the first six months, the results for the full year are expected to fall short of 1976/77.

Courtaulds, Limited  
18 Hanover Square  
London W1A 2BB  
C. J. Cornwall  
Secretary  
15th November 1977

## Business Diary: Unaccustomed as we are...

Ross Davies, Business Diary's Editor, is in Brighton for the first national conference of the CBI. Here is his concluding report.

Perhaps as much to their own surprise as anybody else's, CBI president Lord Watkinson and his director general John Methven find that with this first conference they have a success on their hands.

Although nobody is officially saying so, what was this year a try-out looks like being from now on an annual event. Alex Jarratt, a CBI council member and chairman of Reed International, was basking as much yesterday.

The turn-out of about 1,300 delegates (200 more were said to have cancelled because of prolonged pay negotiations or labour disputes) and 250 or so observers put the CBI conference at a stroke into the same logistical class as its model, the TUC's gathering.

Press, radio and television coverage was wide (although few political correspondents turned up, as they do for the TUC) and would have been wider, were it not for the firemen's strike and Princess Anne's baby.

So dazzled were the delegates by the national attention that the conference offered that by and large the internal cracks in the CBI were kept papered over. Tom Lyon, chairman of the often wayward smaller firms committee, for instance, was notably conciliatory to Lord Watkinson in his speech yesterday.

Business people are not as used as the politicians and the trade unionists to all this exposure, but having rubbed their eyes after stepping into



Not so many are called: NFBE's Peter Morley (centre) sits out with fellow delegates Peter Trew (left) and Richard Amis at the CBI conference in Brighton yesterday.

the spotlight there is little doubt that they like what they see.

■ Peter Morley is one man for whom the conference was less than a success. He thinks the CBI's managers missed a great opportunity publicly to slam Labour's proposals for further nationalization.

Morley, chairman of Unit Construction and president of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, was to be called to speak in the "Set Business Free" debate to remind delegates that in that same hall recently the Labour Party conference accepted the national executive committee's proposals for nationalizing the construction industry.

He was not called, however, and had to scrap a speech in which he gave warning that the proposal could soon be in a Labour Party manifesto as we

move towards the next general election.

Morley told me that the CBI had already got off on the wrong foot in Brighton because the document upon which the debates centred, *Britain Means Business 1977*, mentioned Labour's proposals for nationalizing the pharmaceuticals, insurance and banking industries, but not construction.

Construction, he said, was the biggest of the lot, being the largest employer of men in industry and second only to engineering in terms of turnover.

What he and the many other construction delegates here fear is that when it comes to horse-trading between the Cabinet and the national executive, the Cabinet might use construction to the NEC in return for letting one of the others, possibly banks, off the hook.

The CBI conference, Morley told me, would have been the

perfect platform from which to launch the anti-nationalization campaign of the NFBE, a founder-member of the confederation.

If sadder, Morley is also a wiser man and swears that he will not make the same mistake as he gets closer to the CBI's conference managers.

■ I asked one eminent survivor of many a Tory Party conference whether he thought that the CBI had made a success of Brighton. He preferred not to be named, he said, because he did not wish to be thought a meddler, although I thought it was partly due to the politician's innate love of cosy "unattributable" claims.

Given that this was a first conference, he told me, Brighton had been "a definite success". It had given publicity and credibility to what business people thought was needed if there was going to be the wealth to pursue social aims.

He surprised me by saying that he thought that one and a half days was long enough, although his reason was not so much that it would have been hard to fill any more time with speakers and subjects, but because that was about as much as top people could take off.

He even supported the preference decision not to debate individual motions and said that little came of them when they were permitted at party conferences.

"What I do think is lacking, however," he said, and it's not surprising he's the first conference, is atmosphere. It's all rather artificial, with not enough personal views.

"I'm sure there are lots of idiosyncratic views here, but we're not hearing them."

In time, he went on, the CBI would get to know who were the natural speakers, and their deployment would help liven up audiences at future conferences.

The *Britain Means Business 1977* document, upon which the conference is based, was "impressive". As it would probably need updating, rather than complete revision, for future conferences, he might be that "unattributable" pick out the smaller bits and put them under the microscope.

One of the undoubted stars of the CBI conference was Michael Edwards, the new British Leyland chairman, who seems to be popping up all over the place these days. "I don't know," he said, "his own words—put up by Chloride in its latest half year. Pre-tax profits were down from £10.8m to £7.2m. Edwards would have handed over the posts of chairman and chief executive to Chloride before the figures were published, had they been any good. As it was, he felt he should hang on. "If you are going to give anybody any stick it should be me," he explained. As it was Chloride's day he tried not to say anything about British Leyland, where a major board and senior executive reshuffle is expected soon, but did not quite succeed.

He commented: "I don't propose to travel very much. I expect to stay in my office a lot of the time. I don't intend to spend much time in offices and factories because the problem is here in London."

Edwards implied that he would be back at Chloride as chairman once his British Leyland stint was over. "I don't see British Leyland as a career," he said.



## New control systems aim to raise productivity

By Kenneth Owen

New computer-based production control systems developed jointly by International Computers and Vickers with Department of Industry support are likely to lead to significantly higher productivity in manufacturing.

Yesterday Vickers Management Services demonstrated the new systems at its computer centre in Newcastle upon Tyne, on the occasion of the commissioning of a £750,000 ICL 2960 computer.

This marks an important stage in the development by the Vickers group of a nationwide computing network. Initially developed for Vickers engineering group, this network extends from Glasgow and Edinburgh to Bristol and Southampton.

Tet network is being extended to other companies in the Vickers group, and its services are being marketed also to outside customers.

Mr Jim Hendin, assistant managing director of Vickers and chairman of Vickers engineering group, said yesterday: "I am confident that in two years' time we shall be ahead of the field in the production control systems developed here."

Other computer projects under way include a shopfloor information system being introduced at Vickers Scottswood works, Newcastle, and an experimental computer-aided method of estimating a joint project with the government's computer aided Design Centre at Cambridge.

## W Europe's forecast growth too low for substantial cut in jobless

From Alan McGregor  
Geneva, Nov 15

Average growth rate for gross domestic product in industrialized Western European countries in 1978 is likely to be 3.5 per cent, according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. It points out that a 5.5 per cent growth rate is needed if unemployment is to be substantially reduced by the end of the 1970s.

Its latest bulletin puts the corresponding average for this year at 2.5 per cent, a number of countries having failed to attain the better performance expected earlier. Only the Republic of Ireland is given a rate above 5 per cent. It is followed by Norway with 4.5 per cent and Austria with 4.

France's rate is expected to be 3 per cent with West Germany's not much higher. For the United Kingdom either low or negative growth is predicted for the third consecutive year. Sweden's growth rate is seen to decline for the first time since the Second World War.

The picture is brighter in southern Europe with rates around 5 per cent expected in Greece, Portugal and Turkey and above 6 per cent in Yugoslavia. Spain is the exception, with 1.5 or 2 per cent.

But inflation predicts in southern Europe arouse serious concern, the bulletin adds, and payments deficits there are unlikely to improve without higher growth rates in the industrialized countries.

"Implementation of a broadly-based expansionary programme is admittedly a difficult task," the bulletin says.

However, if the present state of semi-depression were to continue it is difficult to see how the rising tide of protectionism could be resisted.

The commission puts the Western Export surplus to eastern Europe and the Soviet Union at \$7,000m this year. Their net debt at the end of 1976 is estimated at between \$32,000m and \$35,000m.

Imports from the industrialized West are about 20 per cent of the Soviet bloc's total imports. Western countries exports to the bloc are just over 4 per cent of their total foreign trade.

## Plea for temporary ban on trading with Japan

A temporary ban on trading with Japan by the European Community and the United States might be the only way to persuade Japan's manufacturers to change their "greedy" trading policies, Mr Michael Montague, an Institute of Directors member last night. Mr Montague is an industrialist who is a member of the Labour Party's 1972 industry group.

He explained that the Japanese had so far paid only lip service to controlling exports, and had been reducing foreign exchange surpluses by stockpiling commodities.

"No only are they remorselessly treating the world as their market which they are determined to conquer at any cost, but at the same time they continue to protect their 110 million people from the market as virtually closed."

Mr Montague, who said he was speaking from personal experience of the country, believed that only the shock of a move like a temporary ban—leading to a resumption of negotiations industry-by-industry—would "really pull up the Japanese and make them think".

He was a great believer in free trade, Mr Montague added, but "there was nothing in life one could believe in if it was taken to extremes" and that was what the Japanese were doing.

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## Business appointments



Mr John Roberts, who is to become group managing director of Ruberoid.

## Planner for House of Fraser

Mr C. G. Thompson of the Army and Navy Group has been appointed to the new position of controller of corporate planning and development at House of Fraser.

Mr R. H. Crowther has been made investment manager of Esso Petroleum's pension fund. Mr R. H. Crowther has been made investment manager of Esso Petroleum's pension fund.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS

## BMW foresees rise in total sales this year despite grim competition from Japan

From Peter Norman  
Bonn, Nov 15

Bayerische Motorenwerke AG, the smallest of the West German car groups, today forecast a rise in overall sales of BMW cars to around 290,000 units this year from 275,500 in 1976, and an increase in motor-cycle sales to more than 31,000 from 28,200.

In a letter to shareholders BMW reported that the parent's turnover rose by 16.2 per cent in the first nine months of this year to DM3.5m (about £830,000) and that of the group advanced by 17.5 per cent to DM4,000m.

The company expects that group turnover this year will top the DM5,000m level after last year's 33 per cent jump to DM4,700m. Without going into details, BMW described its position as satisfactory and added that it expects to be fully occupied well beyond the beginning of next year.

BMW has been operating at full capacity for more than two years so that it is hardly surprising that the percentage increases in the group's car production and sales in the first nine months of this year turn out to be relatively modest.

Car production was increased by 4.7 per cent and world-wide sales gained 3.8 per cent. In contrast output of motor cycles rose by 15.8 per cent and sales by 14.4 per cent.

**AKZO slips into red**  
Amsterdam.—AKZO, the Dutch chemical giant, expects to make a net loss in 1977 after earlier forecasting that it would end the year roughly breaking even, according to Mr Henk Kruisings.

He explained that this is largely due to factors beyond AKZO's control, such as currency instability, which led to a drop in the value of the peseta against the guilder and a rise in the Swiss franc. AKZO

Smith's Industries, the motor vehicle, aerospace and medical equipment group, is to change its articles of association to remove the votes of shareholders who refuse to comply with one of its requirements of the 1976 Companies Act.

The Act empowers companies to establish the true ownership of a share held by nominees, and in a letter to all shareholders Smith's proposed what it regards as a more effective way of forcing compliance with the Act by removing the voting rights of any shareholder who fails to comply.

Referring to the 1976 Companies Act was passed a similar move was made by Lyle Shipping in an attempt to discover the ownership of eight per cent of its capital held in nominee names.

The change in its articles is part of a more general revision which has been considered during the year to make them more up-to-date. This includes the removal of the fixed shareholding of 250 units for directors, and a changing of rules on directors voting at board meetings where contracts are considered in which they have an interest.

It is proposed to broaden and modify these restrictions so that directors will only be inhibited from voting on contracts where their interest is regarded as material.

**Now it's Young's turn to see profits dwindle**  
Whitbread is not the only brewery with the sad distinction of reporting the first fall in profits that anyone can remember.

A voluntary price freeze and rising costs led to a dip in pre-tax profits of £385,000 to £348,000 at Young and Company's Brewery in the six months to September 30.

Turnover of the Wandsworth-based "real ale" group rose 21 per cent to £8.7m. So margins narrowed from 11.8 per cent to 9.6 per cent. But the interim dividend is 2.4p gross against 2.12p.

Mr John Young, chairman, said that the group had increased its trade and held its prices for ten months from September 1976 to July 1977. Costs, however, did not stand still. Sales of Young's draught beer rose 11 per cent.

The results of Young's for the last full year to March 31 showed pre-tax profits up a full 31 per cent to a record £1.49m.

**NO PROBE**  
Proposed merger between Caledonian Industries and Wood Barrow Holdings not to be referred to Monopolies Commission.

**EURO COAL & STEEL**  
Issue by European Coal and Steel Community "substantially oversubscribed."

**CREDIT TO POLAND**  
ECGD has guaranteed a £5m loan of credit to enable Polish buyers to place orders in the United Kingdom for capital goods and associated services.

**TOTAL OIL MARINE**  
Group is to issue a £25m Euro-bond with an indicated 9 3/4 per cent coupon and seven year maturity.

## International

has made borrowings in France. He also said that the stagnating economy was a major cause of the disappointing results. For the third quarter of this year, AKZO had a net loss of £157.5m from £224m in the corresponding 1976 period.

The stagnating economy led to further serious losses in textile fibres. The return on heavy chemicals also reached a new low due to price cutting brought about by excess capacity in the United States, too. Akzo is therefore studying further restructuring of its fibre and other sectors which have already led to a reduction of 4,000 in the workforce this year.

**Northrop flies high**  
Northrop Corporation, of Los Angeles, the aircraft manufacturer, expects that its 1977 results will be the best ever according to the president, Mr Thomas Paine.

In 1976, Northrop reported record earnings per share of \$2.88, adjustment for a two-for-one stock split in May.

Mr Paine said: "We expect this upward trend in sales and earnings will continue in 1978, although certainly not at the dramatic rate we are experiencing this year."

For the nine months, Northrop earned \$3.52 a share, up from \$1.72 in 1976, adjusted for the split.

Mr Paine said that sales for the nine months were \$1,100m (about £647m) nearly equalling last year's record of \$1,200m for the full year.

He said that the group's work on its portion of the Navy and Marine Corps F-18 strike fighter, being developed with McDonnell Douglas, was progressing on schedule.

**DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH**  
M 69 1323 2948 4144 5420 6243 6891 7588 8396 8992 9634 10265 10737 11376 12043 12643 14189

On December 15, 1977, the Debentures designated above will become due and payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts. Said Debentures will be paid, upon presentation and surrender thereof, with all coupons pertaining thereto maturing after the redemption date, at the option of the holder either (a) at the corporate trust office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 15 Broad Street, New York, N.Y. 10015, or (b) at the main offices of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London, Paris and Zurich; Bank Mess & Hope NV in Amsterdam; Banca Venetia & C. S.p.A. in Milan and Rome and Credit Industriel d'Alsace et de Lorraine, S.A. in Luxembourg. Payments of the amounts referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a dollar account, or by transfer to a dollar account maintained by the payee with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due December 15, 1977 should be detached and collected in the usual manner. On and after December 15, 1977 interest shall cease to accrue on the Debentures herein designated for redemption.

Dated: November 15, 1977

Compañía Anónima Nacional Teléfonos de Venezuela

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## Exchange law forces IBM to quit India

New Delhi, Nov 15.—International Business Machines, the American multinational group, will wind up operations in India by May 31 next year, Mr. F. B. Finn, IBM manager for India, announced today.

In a statement to the press he said the company was ceasing operations because of the Indian government's requirement that IBM should give up 60 per cent of its business in the country. The requirement was based on India's foreign exchange regulations Act (FERA).

The statement quoted Mr

Frank T. Cary, IBM chairman in New York, as saying IBM had tried to be responsive to FERA and "having to make this change is a great disappointment to us".

At the same time the government-owned Computer Maintenance Corporation of India announced that it would be offering complete maintenance services to all IBM customers.

IBM, which has been operating in India for 25 years, has about 1,000 machines, including computers and unit record installations, functioning in India. Company sources said

these machines would be sold to customers at a nominal price. About 800 of IBM's Indian employees, who may be dismissed by May, are expected to find employment either with the Computer Maintenance Corporation or other computer concerns. The corporation has already signed a contract with IBM to ensure regular supply of spare parts for the next six years.

The announcement followed a visit to India by Mr. Ralph Pifer, the IBM Far East Corporation chairman. An agency France-Presse.

IBM, which has been operating in India for 25 years, has about 1,000 machines, including computers and unit record installations, functioning in India. Company sources said



## Royal Insurance

### ESTIMATED RESULTS

The estimated Group results for the nine months ended 30th September, 1977, with comparative figures for the corresponding period in 1976 and for the full year 1976 are given below. As has been pointed out previously, figures for an interim period should not necessarily be taken as giving a reliable indication for the year.

	9 months to 30 Sept 77	9 months to 30 Sept 76	Year 1976
General Insurance:			
Premiums Written	935.6	779.9	1091.8
Underwriting result:			
U.S.A.	-8.8	-19.7	-18.1
U.K. and Irish Republic	12.9	0.4	-0.1
Canada	13.0	1.8	-2.2
Australia	0.7	2.1	2.4
Europe (ex U.K. and Irish Republic)	-2.6	-2.4	-4.7
Other Overseas	2.6	2.9	4.9
Total	17.8	-14.9	-17.8
Long term insurance profits	1.3	1.3	1.7
Investment Income	82.6	65.4	92.4
Share of Associated Companies' profit	2.2	1.3	1.8
Total profit before taxation	103.9	53.1	78.1
Taxation	39.1	19.1	27.5
Minority Interests	0.2	0.2	0.4
Profit after taxation	64.6	33.8	50.2
(pence per unit)	(43.0p)	(22.5p)	(33.5p)
The operating ratios for the U.S.A. on the U.K. basis are:			
Claims as % of earned premiums	72.2	77.8	75.4
Expenses as % of written premiums	29.2	27.8	28.0
Operating ratio	101.4	105.6	103.4

### EXCHANGE RATES

In the above figures foreign currency has been converted according to our normal practice at approximately the average rates of exchange ruling during the period. The principal rates were:

	9 months to 30 Sept 77	9 months to 30 Sept 76	Year 1976
U.S.A.	\$1.72	\$1.86	\$1.80
Canada	\$1.81	\$1.83	\$1.78
Australia	\$1.56	\$1.49	\$1.48

The effect of the changes in exchange rates on the comparison of the 9 months results was to improve profit before tax by some £2m. The underwriting result was adversely affected by about £1m, on the other hand investment income benefited by some £3m.

### UNDERWRITING RESULTS

In the United States, where results were better in most major lines, there was a significant improvement in the commercial business with profits being earned in the Property lines and reduced losses in the Casualty lines including Workers Compensation. In the personal lines there was an improvement in Automobile but not yet to the point of a profit.

The considerably improved result in Canada reflects the underwriting action taken in 1975 and 1976. No provision has been made for potential refunds which may become payable to policyholders under the anti-inflation regulations.

In the United Kingdom the substantially increased profit on last year is due to the absence of major storms, an improvement in the Liability account and more favourable experience in the Industrial Fire business.

In Australia last year's return to profitability was sustained, although at a reduced level due to growing competition in the market.

In Europe the underwriting loss was again more than accounted for by adverse experience in the Netherlands, where market conditions remain difficult.

In the Other Overseas territories results overall were profitable.

### LONG TERM INSURANCE

New business written in the first nine months of the year with corresponding figures was:

	9 months to 30 Sept 77	9 months to 30 Sept 76	Year 1976
New life and annuity premiums:			
Periodical premiums	12.5	11.9	17.0
Single premiums	16.6	8.9	14.9
Total	29.1	20.8	31.9
New sums assured	640.6	664.5	862.0
New annuities per annum	24.5	21.0	31.4

## Irish ferry switch from Swansea to Pembroke Dock

A £4m ferryport is to be developed at Pembroke Dock, Wales, by the British and Irish Steam Packet Co to replace services to Cork now operating from Swansea.

The terminal will be served by an 8,000-ton ferry being built by B & F as part of a £16m expansion of its ferry fleet. The switch to Pembroke Dock is being made because the ship, 3,250 tons bigger than the (in)famous, now operating on the South Wales to Cork service, would be unable to use the Swansea facility.

## £7m Thames barrier contract

A consortium of HAM Dredging and an associated company, ACZ, has been awarded a £7m subcontract for protection of the river bed against scour at the Thames barrier, and for ancillary dredging work.

The subcontract has been awarded by the Costain-Tarmac EBM joint venture, the civil engineering works contractor for the Greater London Council, Department of Public Health Engineering.

## Electra Investment Trust LIMITED

Interim Report (unaudited) for the six months ended



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Day of company upsets prompts heavy selling

Concern over company profits reappeared as a major drag on sentiment and was mainly responsible for widespread selling which centred on the industrial leaders.

With investors continuing to be unsettled by labour doubts and the stagnant state of industrial production the FT index fell 11.7 by 2 pm to reach its lowest point of the session. There was little respite in late trading and the index was still 11.8 off at 487.9 by the close.

Of particular concern on the profits front were the profits falling from Courtauld which dipped 3p to 109p, below par figures from Chloride 4p lower at 99p, and the profits setback at Wheatheaf which hit the shares no less than 38p to 180p and cast a shadow over the whole food retailing sector. A subdued session in the gilt-

mentioned in this column recently.

The Courtauld figures also gave rise to renewed doubts about ICI's figures, due soon, with the shares dipping a comparatively modest 4p to 365p. Unilever, with figures due this week, lost just a couple of pence to 564p but Glaxo continued to fall losing another 3p to 587p and additionally affected by the lack of any dividend news accompanying this week's United States acquisition.

Issues to fall heavily in food retailing were Lined 10p to 178p, Associated Dairies 11p to 257p, Bejam 4p to 71p, Kwik Save 12p to 218p and Nurdin & Peacock 5p to 198p.

In sympathy with Chloride a

3p fall to 165p was recorded by Ever Ready while elsewhere in the sector Lucas slipped 15p to 265p on its labour problems and a chart "sell" recommendation.

Though most interest centred on results there was also some activity on the takeover and speculative front.

South S. Osborn 7p a 75p and Weir Group 4p to 118p lost ground waiting for further details of their mergers plan while speculative demand breathed life into Federated Chemical 4p to 68p, Sana Sugar 34p to 111p, Funness Wilby 4p to 338p, Hunting Gibson 10p to 250p, and Glaxo Securities 13p to 288p.

A factory sale boosted John Bright to 35p but by the end

of trading the price had returned to its overnight 33p. The big engineering groups were not immune to the retreat with GKN losing 10p to 286p after some adverse comment and Tube Investments lower by the same amount to 388p. Back in foods Paterson Zochonis dipped 10p to 200p after the chairman's warning on profits.

Oil featured Siebens which again sprang to life with a rise of 10p to 282p but BP reacted from the strength of recent days losing 15p for a close of 855p.

Among financial the clearing banks were all lower by 10p with Barclays at 330p, Lloyds 270p, National Westminster

270p and Midland 365p. Insurances were supported by better than expected figures from Royal which ended just 2p off expectations with a 20 per cent pre-tax profit increase from £19.7m to £23.6m for the six months to September 30. In fact, the performance was somewhat better than many expected since the share of profits from MK Refrigeration, taken over earlier this year, has not been included.

Given the changes in the group's holdings over the last year, the profits make-up has changed somewhat, but nevertheless the group, which is effectively the United Kingdom arm of the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, looks set for a full year profit increase of about the same magnitude. There are, however, still worries as to the extent of any below-the-line write-offs that may be needed, although, if there are any, they should be a long way short of last year's £9.4m.

In properties, Town Centre Securities were firm ahead of figures, due today, which are expected to be bullish.

After hours leading shares tended to go a little firmer and insurances and banks recouped the odd penny or so. Gold shares lost a little more and Farm Feeds dropped 8p to 37p after its interim trading loss. Equity turnover on November 14 was £68.5m (14,270 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Reed International, BP, GKN, ICI, BAT DfD, and Ind. English China Glaz, GEC, P & O, Betcham, Grand Metropolitan, Commercial Union, Weir Group, Tube Investments, Tate & Lyle, Lucas, Royal Insurance, Furness Withy, Philips Lamps and Wheatheaf.

## Charter Cons up to mark with a 20 pc first-half rise

By Desmond Quigley

Charter Consolidated, the United Kingdom mining finance house, has matched market expectations with a 20 per cent pre-tax profit increase from £19.7m to £23.6m for the six months to September 30. In fact, the performance was somewhat better than many expected since the share of profits from MK Refrigeration, taken over earlier this year, has not been included.

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Mr Murray Hofmeyr, chairman of Charter Consolidated.

Income from Charter's major investments showed a £2.1m gain to £10.96m, which reflects the extra dividend under the Anglo American-Rand Selection merger, while Rio Tinto-Zinc boosted its dividend having gone through the "lucrose"

gap". Selection Trust, in which Charter has a 25.8 per cent stake, also paid out more as a result of the rights issue last year.

Total investment income, however, only rose by £652,000 to £11.8m, but this in the main reflects the fact that the Malaysian interests have been re-organized and are now part of New Trade Winds.

The changed status of the Minorco "A" shares and the problems that have confronted that company are also reflected in the decline in the income from associated companies. Since MK has not been included the trading profits of the group more or less marked time at £9.4m.

There was a sharp jump in share-dealing profits to £2.66m. Costs have been kept under a tight rein and prospecting expenditure has been further reduced reflecting Charter's changing role.

The interim dividend has been increased to 4.383p from 4.231p gross.

## Disputes hit LCP Hldgs

Hit by labour trouble, the West Midlands-based LCP Holding has not grown much.

Turnover climbed 24.5 per cent to £63.44m in the six months to September 30, but trading profits rose by just 6 per cent to £2.91m. After heavier interest of £806,000, against £718,000, pre-tax profits edged forward from £2.03m to £2.1m.

A breakdown of trading profits shows that property's share went up from £628,000 to £821,000, but merchandising and manufacturing fell from £2.12m to £2.09m. Earnings per share, stood still at 6.5p.

The gross interim payment, rises from 2.15p to 3.03p. The board is confident that the group's large property interests will show further growth.

## Gt Portland up 34 pc at half-time

By Michael Clark

Great Portland Estates with offices, showrooms and shops mainly in the West End and City of London, reports a rise of 34 per cent in pre-tax revenue to £1.96m for the six months to September 30.

Gross rental income rose slightly from £3.5m to £3.9m and the directors have declared an interim dividend unchanged at 1.21p. The revenue available for appropriation amounted to £1.04m compared with £769,000 for the corresponding period. This includes an amount equal to the net outgoings for the half-year attributable to properties in the course of development of £3,000 against £32,000.

The group has charged to revenue the sum of £37,000 compared with £344,000 for exceptional repairs from the refurbishment of buildings and £393,000 on other work.

Results of Great Portland for the full year to March 31, saw pre-tax profits hit by an exceptional charge of £1.1m so that they rose only slightly to £2.67m. Flanking mosaic at the group's 190,000 sq ft Knollys House office block in Cavendish contributed £333,000 to the exceptional charge along with an £871,000 refurbishment charge. Gross rentals however rose by £1m to £7.2m.

The share lost 4p to 292p yesterday.

## BH South's report qualified

Melbourne. — The annual report of B H South, the copper and phosphate mining group, for the year to June 30 is qualified by the auditor, Coopers and Lybrand. It queries the valuation of three subsidiaries on a "going concern" basis. Coopers argue that for Cobar Mines and Kanmantua mines the basis of accountancy is 1976-77 depended mostly on future copper price increases, which cannot be determined at this time with reasonable certainty.

Coopers stated that Cobar was able to more than offset payable losses through sales of lead concentrate produced in previous years, while Kanmantua was on a care and maintenance basis throughout the year.

The auditors also criticize B H South for not adopting exact accounting in 1976-77, and it been used, the parent company's share of the consolidated loss would have risen to \$430,000 (about £186,000) and \$42,99m would have been accumulated in a provision for deferred income tax, Coopers estimate.

In the 12 months to June 30, B H reduced its consolidated operating loss from £5.09m to \$43.37m. The loss on listing for B H's shares was unveiled in 1976 at B H's request.

## James Halstead chairman in cheerful mood

It looks as if things are on the mend at Manchester-based James Halstead (Holdings), which is in plastics, clothing and textile processing. As known, pre-tax profits fell from £317,000 to £197,000 in the year to June 30 though turnover grew from £12.44m to £15.45m.

Mr J. S. Leach reports in his annual statement that since his appointment as chairman he has found it difficult, for many reasons, to be optimistic about the short-run, although he has always been confident about the longer-run.

However, he now believes the group has the opportunity to make progress. Management changes make him confident of substantial benefits, and of a

"marked improvement" in profitability.

The markers in which Halstead trades continued to be noisy. But the expected improvement in profits would have taken place save for a serious setback in the performance of one subsidiary, B.M. Coating met considerable difficulties and suffered a substantial trading loss.

There has been a complete reorganization of management, and Mr Leach is confident there will be a dramatic improvement in B.M.'s performance in the current year.

The claim brought by a former director has been withdrawn on payment of his legal costs.

## Mr O Jessel gives way

Catel Trust plans to assess its shares in George Doland to the offer by Maurice James Industries. This way, it makes a profit of £6,000 before its share of expenses. This was stated at yesterday's annual meeting of Catel by Mr Oliver Jessel, chairman.

He said that Catel and its associates had been opposing the takeover by Maurice James, whose chairman, Mr Maurice

James, joined the Doland board, like Mr Jessel, last January.

In the High Court on Monday, Mr Jessel failed in his attempt to stop the James takeover of Casper Jack. The Catel board does not think that it is in the company's interest to pursue a claim for damages and have come to the conclusion that it must accept the offer.

Mr Jessel said the James purchase of Casper denied Doland the same opportunity and rendered Doland a very different investment proposition.

## GEI heading for £5m margins up

Engineering group GEI International is heading for profits of nearly £5m this year.

Booned by an improving home market and an increase in exports, turnover rose by 32 per cent to £22.7m in the six months to September 30. Pre-tax profits showed an even larger gain. They jumped from £1.5m to £2m, widening pre-tax margins by half a point to 9.1 per cent.

Mr Thomas Kenny, chairman, reports that outstanding orders are more than a third higher than a year ago. In volume terms, this is equivalent to an increase of around 25 per cent.

Much of the improvement reflected a five-year capital spending programme. Around £7m is to go on extending capacity to £1.75m has already been spent.

The group has also concentrated on improving exports. Around 12 per cent of total turnover goes directly overseas but, taking into account this figure rises to 60 per cent.

The second half year, in which the group traditionally makes the larger share of its profits, has started well. An upturn at home particularly for the steel division should give the group an added fillip.

And group managing director Mr John Sewell reports that October was the best month for the group in a long time.

## Wheatheaf undermined

By Alison Mitchell

An unexpected slump in half time results at hypermarket to foods group Wheatheaf Distribution & Trading knocked £4.5m off the value of the group yesterday as the shares sank 38p to 180p.

On a turnover up from £170m to £216m, pre-tax profits slithered from £2.4m to £1.5m in the 28 weeks to September 10.

The joker was the Carrefour hypermarket division. A downturn in profits at the three original outlets and a £450,000 loss from the new Birmingham superstore left the division with a near £1m shortfall.

The Tesco-inspired price cutting at, knocked the feet under the new store only weeks after it had started up. It shows no signs of abating. Company secretary Mr Victor Williams admitted last night that mar-

gins are being sacrificed to maintain market share.

However Birmingham is now breaking even a better second half year from this division is expected.

Despite exceptional re-organization costs and the increasing pressure on wholesale margins divisional profits were slightly ahead of last year.

The group benefited from a first-time contribution of £148,000 from Spain and an almost unchanged boost from France.

Warning shareholders that second half trading profits will not claw back the downturn of the first six months, Mr Williams comments that they will be similar to those of the same period last year.

Stripping out profits from property disposals, this forecast would give the group around £5m for the full year pointing to a prospective yield of 4.6 per cent.

## Falconbridge Nickel slides into the red

Toronto. — Falconbridge Nickel Mines had a third quarter loss of \$3.45 the year before.

The results include costs incurred at Sudbury during the period of the previously announced shutdown.

Falconbridge pointed out that write-off rates for capital and preproduction and development were changed on July 1 to reflect the economic lives of the specific assets in use. Those figures are bad but Falconbridge is only the latest big nickel group (Inco reported last week) to spell out what production cutbacks are doing to revenues.

BRIT CAR AUCTIONS First three months of new year show rise in sales and profits. Sales of vehicles from fleet operators have risen by 35 per cent.

The share lost 4p to 292p yesterday.

## Charter Consolidated Limited

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR HALF-YEAR TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1977 (unaudited)

	Half-year to 30.9.77 £000	Half-year to 30.9.76 £000	Year to 31.3.77 £000
Income from investments	797	2,335	3,247
Associated companies	10,960	8,770	15,334
Other investments	11,757	11,105	18,581
Surplus on realizations of investments	2,657	777	2,375
Trading profit	9,473	9,204	18,936
	23,887	21,086	39,892
Deduct:			
Administration and technical expenditure	1,914	2,070	3,674
Prospecting expenditure	360	417	825
Interest payable less receivable	1,633	1,204	3,031
	3,907	3,691	7,530
Retained profits of associated companies	19,980	17,395	32,362
	3,633	2,341	3,669
Profit before taxation	22,613	19,736	36,731
Taxation	10,138	9,429	18,693
Profit after taxation	13,475	10,307	20,038
Deduct:			
Minority interests	1,510	1,332	2,597
Attributable to Charter	11,965	8,975	17,441
Earnings per share	11.42p	8.56p	16.64p
Interim dividend of 3.025p per share (previous year's interim—2.75p)	3,171	2,882	

NOTES: Surplus on realizations of investments for the half-year to 30 September 1976 has been restated to reflect the currency loss of £864,000, at that date, on the conversion into sterling of foreign currency loans financing portfolio investments. This treatment follows the change in the accounting policy adopted as at 31 March 1977. The results of overseas subsidiary and associated companies have been converted into sterling at the rates ruling at the end of their relevant accounting periods. Other exchange differences arising from the fluctuation of currencies are treated as extraordinary items which are dealt with in the end-of-year accounts.

## MK REFRIGERATION

The offer by Charter to acquire, for a total cash consideration of £12.7 million, the whole of the issued share capital of MK Refrigeration Limited has been accepted by the holders of approximately 99 per cent of the shares, and Charter is in process of acquiring the remainder in accordance with the Companies Act. As MK Refrigeration is now a subsidiary of Charter, its results from 5 August 1977, the effective date of the acquisition, to 31 December 1977 will be consolidated in Charter's accounts to 31 March 1978.

## INTERIM DIVIDEND

The directors have declared an interim dividend of 3.025p per share payable on or about 19 January 1978 to shareholders registered at the close of business on 9 December 1977 and to persons presenting coupon no. 25 detached from share warrants to bearer. The dividend will carry a tax credit of 1.5535p per share.

by order of the board  
D. S. BOOTH  
secretary

## No payout as Farm Feed makes loss

Farm Feed Holdings has gone from a profit of £56,000 to a loss of £36,000 for the six months to July 31, and there is no interim dividend against 1p gross last year.

Mr Leonard Philby, the chairman, says that the group's investment in Triphos (North-eastern), which makes re-calcium phosphate, continues to cause grave concern to the directors. He promises to report fully on this at the annual meeting.

In the last accounts the Auditors were unable to say whether the group's investment in Triphos was fairly stated at £347,000, or whether a liability would arise under a guarantee.

## NCB Pensions offer for BIT posted

The formal offer from Black Diamonds Pensions, owned by National Coal Board Pensions Funds, for British Investment Trust has been posted. BIT has already rejected the terms. Black Diamonds and NCB Pensions, advised by S. G. Warburg, say that they believe the ordinary terms are "generous and attractive", and that the market value of the BIT ordinary shares is significantly higher than it would be without an offer.

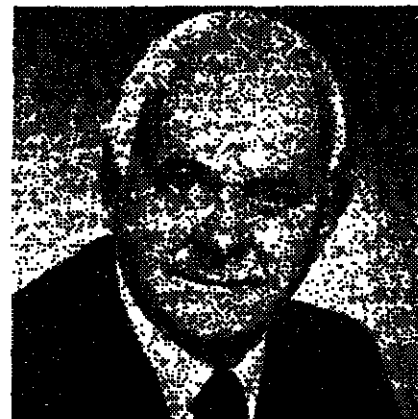
## Malton Inv seeks liquidation

The board of Malton Investment Trust has decided to recommend that the company be placed in members' voluntary liquidation. Its net asset value a share at October 31 amounted to 501.56p before allowing for the cost of liquidation and other contingencies. The board thinks that shareholders will receive not less than 490p per share and a first distribution of not less than 400p a share is expected to be made within one month of liquidation.

## Yearling coupon down

Having reached 7 per cent last week the coupon on local authority bonds is down again to 6 1/2 per cent. The biggest borrowers are Southwark and Birmingham with £2m each while Brighton is raising £1m.

## SMITHS INDUSTRIES 1977



The very satisfactory results for 1976/77 demonstrate once more the value of our wide spread of businesses

and of the acquisition and diversification policies of recent years. Roy Sisson, Chairman

The following are additional salient points from the Chairman's review.

- \* Profit before tax was 27% higher and earnings per share also increased by 27%.
- \* Direct exports increased by a third. Overseas turnover—which includes indirect exports and sales by overseas subsidiaries—increased to 55% of total turnover, excluding distribution activities.
- \* The Company remains strong in cash resources and well able to finance further expansion.
- \* Industrial relations during the year were generally good. It is hoped that our record of mutual understanding and tolerance will continue during this current period of the Incomes Policy so that all with an interest in the Company will continue to prosper.
- \* In most areas of our business we are well covered by orders, many in the form of hard-won export contracts. Our prospects for the present year are encouraging.

## RESULTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973
£m's	£m's	£m's	£m's	£m's	£m's
Turnover	224.1	180.8	157.5	135.8	117.0
Trading Profit	21.7	17.5	15.1	13.2	11.7
Profit before Tax	20.5	16.2	12.5	11.3	10.5
Overseas Turnover	103.0	80.1	67.4	54.1	40.9

Copies of the Report and Accounts and of the Special Report 1977 can be obtained from the Secretary.

SMITHS INDUSTRIES LIMITED  
CRICKLEWOOD LONDON NW2 6JN

MANUFACTURERS OF VEHICLE, AEROSPACE, MARINE, MEDICAL, TUBING, ARMOURING AND HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT: CLOCKS, WATCHES, CAR RADIO, CERAMICS AND INDUSTRIAL INSTRUMENTS; AND DISTRIBUTORS OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES FOR VEHICLES AND FOR INDUSTRIAL PLANT AND MACHINERY.



## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible][illegible]

45.5	48.9	4.20	49.1	53.5	Capital Fnd	47.4	50.6	4.38	1. Thru Needles St. F.L.	51.1	53.5	5.12	1979	1980
38.4	28.4	5.06	34.6	41.5	Int Earnings	49.9	53.8	4.23	25.1 30.7 Eagle Midland	51.1	53.0	5.71	1980	1981

[illegible]

2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554
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41.8	44.88	4.14	45 Charlotte St. Edinburgh.	031-226 3271	Lingham Ave. Holmbrook Dr.	031-226 3271	Holmbrook Dr.
63.2	57.0	4.14	45 Charlotte St. Edinburgh.	031-226 3271	137 S 112 1 Property Bond	137 S 141	137 S 141

[illegible]

157.7	165.2	2.40	79.3	47.4	Barbican (4)	79.3	79.1	6.0d	53.6	25.1	Manulife (5)	41.2	43.3	110.4	89.1	Do
											Merchant Investors Assurance			113.5	81.4	Do

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# Stepping Stones - Non-Secretarial - Secretarial & General - Tempting Times -

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### Vidal Sassoon

Receptionist/Telephoneist for the Vidal Sassoon hairdressing salons. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and able to deal with the general public. Salary range £2.35-£2.55 per week. Starting salary £2.35 p.w. L.V.A. and free hair care.

PLEASE TELEPHONE: MRS LINDA HOWARD SPINK ON 022 0213 FOR INTERVIEW.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### TROUBLE SHOOTER

Required by busy Estate Agency dealing with many types of property. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### OPPORTUNITY

Modern air-conditioned dental surgery, central London, needs kind person, 19-35 yrs., to receive patients. No typing and shorthand necessary. Salary £150 p.w. Please telephone 022 6103.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### SKISERS

Your chance to take advantage of the ski season. Salary £150 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 6103.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### TELEPHONIST

Required for an interesting receptionist position. Salary £150 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 6103.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### RECEPTIONIST

(Senior) £3,300+ Super hectic but interesting position for a lively outgoing type of person. HEALTH CARE CENTRE, Kensington. 01-537 5366/7.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### CAROLYN BRUNN

MANAGERESS Required for her Kensington office. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### ALL ROUNDER

£23,000 small W.I. room. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### ZERO FOUR

Is looking for a responsible all-rounder with initiative to help in the children's ward. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### EXPERIENCED Sales Assistant

W.I. room. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### TRAVEL

A Secretary/P.A. job with a difference. Involves travel to various parts of the world. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### SECRETARIAL

#### RECEPTIONIST

Required by small, friendly W.I. room. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

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#### SECRETARIAL

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### SECRETARIAL

#### MATURE SECRETARY ONLY NEED APPLY

#### WEST END

#### NEG. FROM £3,200

We feel that this position, working with a small team involved in producing policy and development reports for the Secretary of State, is a most interesting and challenging one. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### PERSONAL SECRETARY

#### TO CHIEF ENGINEER

#### £3,345/£3,561 per annum

The post is based at the Home Office, Whitehall, London. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,345/£3,561 p.a. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### BRITISH WATERWAYS BOARD

#### PERSONAL SECRETARY

#### TO CHIEF ENGINEER

#### £3,345/£3,561 per annum

The post is based at the Home Office, Whitehall, London. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,345/£3,561 p.a. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### CHARMING YOUNG

#### SOLICITOR

#### with offices in MAYFAIR

Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### GLOBE TROTTER

#### BOSS!

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### ANTIQUE SHOP

Efficient, friendly, and experienced. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### ENGINEER YOUR WAY

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### WORK AT THE T.U.C.

The T.U.C. needs an assistant for its Finance Department. A good working knowledge of accounts and also P.A.E. is essential. Salary rising to £4,951 including London Weighting. Details from General Secretary, T.U.C., Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS.

### SECRETARIAL

#### PART QUALIFIED

#### MAYFAIR

#### SHIPPING-£5,500

Use your knowledge and gain valuable management experience as personal assistant to the Chief Accountant of a shipping company. Salary £5,500 p.a. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### LEGAL ASSISTANTS

ALANAGUE Legal Staff, the specialist legal consultants to the profession. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### SECRETARY/HOUSEKEEPER/MANAGER

The best job in London for an intelligent, efficient, highly qualified person. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### PUBLISHING

#### P.A./SECS

50% Editorial/50% Sec. Sec. in Publishing. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### GUINNESS SPECIALS!

Will travel. Chairman of Guinness. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

#### SECRETARY

Will travel. Chairman of Guinness. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### NON-COMMERCIAL ORGANISATION

Interested in working with a non-commercial organization. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### AUDIO P.A./SEC.

#### £3,500-plus

Director-General seeks P.A./Sec. in Audio. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### ONE QUALIFIED SECRETARY

#### AND ONE QUALIFIED SECRETARY

Required by small, friendly W.I. room. Must be a person of initiative, with a good knowledge of the estate agency business. Salary £2.50 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### MARKETING DIRECTOR

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### SECRETARY WITH FLAIR

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### SECRETARY WITH FLAIR

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### THE OBSERVER

#### Secretary/P.A. to

#### Advertisement Director

We are seeking an experienced, mature, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,500 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### LONDON WEEKEND

#### TELEVISION

Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### FOR A SECRETARY

#### FOR ART SCHOOL, EPSOM

To £3,175 working for Vice Principal and taking responsibility. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### ATTENTION!

24,000 for Italian-speaking Secretary working for the Chairman of a prestigious company. Salary £24,000 p.a. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### PAPERBACK Publishing

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited. Please telephone 022 2271.

### SECRETARIAL

#### TOWER HAMLETS HEALTH DISTRICT

#### Senior Secretary

Few secretarial jobs can match the variety and involvement of this senior post in a large and busy Health District. Salary £2,889-£3,530 p.a. plus proficiency allowances for recognised certificates. For more information and an application form contact Mrs. Clerk, Personnel Services, The London Hospital (Whitechapel), London E1 1BB. Tel. 01-247 5454 ext. 388.

### SECRETARIAL

#### A POINT OF DISCUSSION

Will travel. Chairman of Guinness. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### Part-time Vacancies

Queen Mary College, University of London. Part-time Information Assistant. Salary £2,889-£3,530 p.a. plus proficiency allowances for recognised certificates. For more information and an application form contact Mrs. Clerk, Personnel Services, The London Hospital (Whitechapel), London E1 1BB. Tel. 01-247 5454 ext. 388.

### SECRETARIAL

#### Stepping Stones

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### Tempting Times

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### LET ME GIVE YOU A Christmas bonus

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

#### PART-TIME TEACHER

Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### SECRETARIAL

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Small travel agency of small sales. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### Appointments Vacant

#### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### EXPANDING COMPANY WITH OFFICES IN MAYFAIR IS LOOKING FOR A SALESMAN

with experience in sales and marketing of Steel, especially flat hot rolled products. Applicants (male or female) should have a working knowledge of one or more European languages in addition to English, particulars including salary required, to: Box 0019 K, The Times.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

#### CLAIMS EXECUTIVE

This is an excellent opportunity with a leading Protection and Indemnity Club in the City. Applicants should be under 30 and preferably with legal and/or marine claims handling experience. Above-average salary paid for hard work and exceptional ability. Please write to Box 0008 K, The Times.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Botswana and Swaziland

Applications are invited for TWO LECTURESHIPS in the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. The appointments should be made for the year 1978/79. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH  
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576  
Telex No. 887374

#### LAZARD BROTHERS & COMPANY LIMITED-LATIN AMERICA

#### ATTRACTIONAL SALARY

We invite applications from Candidates, Spanish speaking, aged 30-40, who have Merchant Banking experience, preferably in Project and Export Finance. Alternatively, we would consider Candidates who have held a senior position in the Foreign Service or who have substantial business experience in Latin America. The successful Candidate will report to the Banking Director responsible for the Latin American and Caribbean region. The position is London based but up to 25% foreign travel will be necessary. The applicant must be able to develop business and the ability to negotiate at ministerial level. Remuneration will be negotiable and particularly competitive. Benefits include subsidised home mortgage, pension, free life assurance, free B.U.P.A. assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference MB317/TT, to the Managing Director.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

#### LOOK TO THE FUTURE!

Does your Company think about the future? We're sure you do and appreciate the necessity of recruiting the best possible people to develop into future managers, executives and directors. The problem has always been where to find these people. The Times has the answer: TIME: Thursday, 17th November. PLACE: Career Opportunities from £4,000. BOOKING OFFICE: The Times Recruitment Team. 01-278 9161. Don't miss your future—ring today for more information and to book your space.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### TRAINING BROKER

£2,000 + very high bonus. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### TAXATION ACCOUNTANT

#### £6,000

Unusual opportunity in family business. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Sydney

#### THE WILLIAM GIRLING WATSON TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the above-mentioned scholarship which will be awarded to a postgraduate student for postgraduate study in Electrical Engineering. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### Westminster Abbey

#### MANAGER DESIGNATE

Applications are invited from men or women for this position. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### WORK AT THE T.U.C.

The T.U.C. needs an assistant for its Finance Department. A good working knowledge of accounts and also P.A.E. is essential. Salary rising to £4,951 including London Weighting. Details from General Secretary, T.U.C., Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### NEWLY QUALIFIED

#### POTENTIAL F.D.

#### TO £5,500

A young and expanding company. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Papua New Guinea

#### PORT MOLESBY

Applications are invited from men or women for this position. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### STEPHENS COLLECTION

36 Dover Street, London W1A 3SA. Tel: 01-488 0877. Recruitment Consultants.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### PART QUALIFIED

#### MAYFAIR

#### SHIPPING-£5,500

Use your knowledge and gain valuable management experience as personal assistant to the Chief Accountant of a shipping company. Salary £5,500 p.a. Please telephone 022 2271.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### ST. Hilda's College

#### Oxford

#### TUTORIAL FELLOWSHIP

The College proposes, by a special scheme, to appoint a Tutorial Fellow in French Literature. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

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#### St. Hilda's College

#### Oxford

#### JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The College proposes, by a special scheme, to appoint a Junior Research Fellow in French Literature. The person appointed should be a mature, experienced, and well-organized individual. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

#### PLANNER

A planner with an interest in population housing and environment studies is required to work on the planning and development of the county. Salary £3,200 p.w. plus expenses. Please telephone 022 2271.

### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### LEGAL ASSISTANTS

ALANAGUE Legal Staff, the specialist legal consultants to the profession. Requires a responsible, well-educated, Secretary/Personal Assistant (20-40) who is self-sufficient, personable and capable of working under increasing work loads. Salary negotiable. Telephone 491 1338

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### FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

#### ST. Hilda's College

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Mrs. Shane Young, Mabley & Johnson Ltd., Floral Mills, Twyford, Reading RG10 9SQ. Telephone: 073-522 3921

**MABLEY**

### Executive Secretary c.£4,000.

Our client, a large multiple retailer, needs a calm, confident, and eminently capable person to provide a comprehensive secretarial service for its Deputy Chief Executive. This will involve preparing all the associated documentation for board meetings, and making extensive international travel bookings.

The actual starting salary will depend on qualifications and experience, and will be supported by a full range of benefits, which includes good pension and sick pay schemes, 4 weeks' holiday, a subsidised staff restaurant, and a generous staff discount.

In the first instance, please write with full details, and listing any companies to whom your application should not be forwarded, to John Slamer, at the address below, quoting reference ES/209/T. All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**B&B** CONFIDENTIAL REPLY SERVICE, Benton & Bowles Recruitment Ltd., 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7.

### WORD PROCESSING SUPERVISOR

Leading firm of Solicitors in E.C.2 requires an experienced Supervisor (28+) to take control, expand and motivate a team of five handling IBM MC 82's. Legal, IBM and word processing experience necessary.

Pleasant working conditions, modern offices, season ticket loan and negotiable salary of £4,300.

Box 0010 K, The Times

### KENSINGTON AND CHICHESTER AND WESTMINSTER AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (TEACHING) PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO AREA MEDICAL OFFICER

£3,524 p.a.

Here at the comfortable, modern offices of the Kensington and Chichester and Westminster Area Health Authority we need a Personal Assistant for our Area Medical Officer.

This is a responsible and challenging position requiring excellent secretarial skills, initiative and the ability to deal with high pressure, high interest work. Our offices are situated close to Paddington Station. Starting salary £3,524 p.a. inclusive rising by annual increments to £4,410 p.a.

For further details and application forms telephone or write to Mrs. V. Phillips, Area Personnel Department, 14 Bishopsgate Road, London, W.2. Telephone: 01-723 2400, Ext. 26. Closing date for applications 5 December, 1977.

### ALFA ROMEO (GB) LTD. (N.W.2)

#### SENIOR SECRETARY—£4,000

A vacancy has arisen for a top level Secretary to work for the Secretary of the Managing Director of Alfa Romeo. Applicants for this position must have a high educational and professional knowledge of English and Italian. First class secretarial training and skills together with a certain familiarity with statistics are also essential requirements.

Applications in writing to Mr. R. Anselmo, Alfa Romeo (G.B.) Ltd., Edgware Road, London NW2 6LX.

### ITALY

A major company requires a bilingual Secretary (English and Italian) with a good knowledge of Italian. This is a very important part of a good education and professional knowledge of English and Italian. Attractive salary plus perks. For further details please contact Gabrielle de Bos.

**OVERSEAS RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD.**, 37 Gower Street, London, W.1. Tel. 01-439 8481.

### LEGAL AUDIO SECRETARY

Required by partner in Central London firm of solicitors. Must be good shorthand and typewriter. Salary up to £3,750 and excellent conditions in most central area. Telephone: 01-437 6802. Ref. L.

### Secretaries

#### How does £6,200 per contract after tax appeal to you?

If that's the sort of money you're looking for and you have a spirit of adventure, a sense of responsibility, lots of initiative, considerable self-reliance and, of course, good shorthand and typing speeds (at least 80/55) then we can offer you a job with a major oil company in the Middle East. It's a good opportunity to see the world and although conditions can be a bit tough at times, with air-conditioned accommodation, free medical care, generous leave and lots of social and sports activities, you'll find it a really rewarding experience.

If you'd like to spend a year in a fascinating environment, telephone today, up to 8 p.m. for an interview this Friday or Saturday: Charles R. Lister International Limited, Aarado House, Hayes Road, Southall, Middlesex.

Telephone 01-571 0678 Today up to 8 p.m. 01-571 1808

**LISTER**  
Charles R. Lister International Ltd

### The Exchange Telegraph Company Limited requires a

#### PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

C. £3,700

We are the operating company of a diverse group of companies who employ some 2,300 people in various spheres of the communications industry.

We are looking for a bright intelligent person to work in our central personnel department which is located at our head office between Fleet Street and Holborn. The work will cover most aspects of salary and wage administration as well as general personnel administration.

Applicants, who must be competent shorthand typists and preferably be aged 22-28, should have good academic qualifications, particularly in respect of English and Mathematics. Absolute accuracy and attention to detail are more important in this post than previous personnel experience. Experience in an administrative capacity would be an advantage.

For further information, please telephone or write to:

Miss A. Redman, The Exchange Telegraph Co. Ltd., Exel House, East Harding Street, London EC4P 4HB. Tel. No. 01-353 1080

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Young Managing Director of exciting international promotions company based in West London, requires responsible, well-groomed P.A./Shorthand Secretary.

Applicants must be flexible enough to fit into a small hectic team, preferably have a sound knowledge of French, have a clean driving licence and be prepared to become fully involved in all aspects of the business.

An interest in motor racing would be advantageous.

Salary negotiable, circa £4,000 with attractive fringe benefits.

Please telephone Rose Marie Pitt on 01-568 4191

### PA TO CHAIRMAN AND M.D.

N.W.2. TO £4,500 NEG.

WE NEED AN EXCEPTIONAL PA/SECRETARY with boundless energy and the ability to keep one jump ahead in work. The ideal candidate will be a former top level commercial company in N.W.2. These need someone who is confident, energetic, and has the ability to take on a big job. You will be responsible for the company's expansion in Europe.

You will share in their profit with managers, write some of your own copy, and keep track of your own bonus. You will be a part of the future and the confidence to take a job like this you will be rewarded with a high salary, staff discounts, discretionary bonus and subsidised car hire.

Call John Spencer-Jones on 01-404 5701

Personnel Consultants

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### Opportunity for a DYNAMIC AND QUALIFIED SECRETARY

TO WORK FOR A STEEL COMPANY WITH MODERN OFFICES IN MAYFAIR

Accurate typing and shorthand and interest in figure work. Knowledge of languages desirable, but not essential. Please address your applications with full particulars and salary required, to:

Box 0019 K, The Times.

### SENIOR SECRETARY

To work for the Deputy Chairman of a large Building Construction Company. Career minded person aged 20+. Salary £4,000. Subsidised restaurant, 4 weeks' holiday. Fabulous Company to work for. Please contact: Jacobs or Chris on 043 2211. This position is urgent. Alfred Marks 5087, Surbiton

### MERROW AGENCY FOR TOP SECRETARIES

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### Top Jobs for Executive Top People

#### BARBICAN £3,750-£4,000

The Purchasing Director of a busy company travels abroad frequently and needs a competent, mature secretary, probably 28+ to hold the fort, make overseas travel arrangements and hotel bookings and deal competently with telephone queries, etc. The secretarial skills must be good. Pension Scheme, own office in new block, very good free lunch in staff restaurant, 4 weeks holiday.

Contact Mrs. Dawn Shaerf 01-235 9984

#### AUDIO SECRETARY, W.C.2 £3,500

A delightful company with exceptionally good staff facilities and working conditions requires a Senior Audio Secretary, aged 21-35, "O" level education and a good work record will be appreciated. 7 hour day (flexitime). Convenient Temple Tube Station. Regular Salary Increases and Career planning.

Contact Miss Jane Barnsley 01-235 9984

#### CITY £3,700

This post as Secretary to the Financial Director of a very well known city company, requires a good standard of education and competent secretarial skills. Positively NO SCHEDULE TYING is involved. Good telephone manner essential. The company offers free lunch, an annual bonus, season ticket loan, and a high standard of personnel concern and career planning.

Contact Mrs. Jo Armit 01-235 9984

#### EPSOM £3,500

Secretary/PA for Senior Executive. Good secretarial skills required plus administrative ability. Smart personable candidate who enjoys meeting clients and dealing with day to day queries. Free car park.

Contact Miss Jane Barnsley 01-235 9984

Late night opening 6.45 pm every Thursday. Telephone Mrs Dorothy Allison (Manager) on 01-235 9984 for an appointment at 4-5 Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, SW1

Applications are welcome from both men and women.

### INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CONSULTANTS

£4,000

The Chairman/Creative Head of this W1 based Company needs an experienced secretary to organise all aspects of his private and social life in addition to dealing with the large number of visiting clients. Car driver preferred. 100/50 (some audio), aged 25-38.

### EUROPEAN SECRETARY

Our client, the Managing Director of a unique organisation which allocates English teachers to schools and companies here and abroad is looking for an efficient Personal Secretary who would be free to accompany him on occasional trips to Germany and Morocco. 100/50. Age 20-30. Salary £3,700 plus use of a holiday villa in Portugal.

Angela Mortimer Ltd  
Recruitment Consultants  
166 Piccadilly 499 5378

### ÜBERSETZER/IN und FREMDSPRACHENKORRESPONDENT/IN

zumindest in englisch und deutsch perfekt, mögl. weitere Fremdsprache (französisch oder spanisch). Steno- und Schreibmaschinenkenntnisse erforderlich, für unsere Übersetzungsbüro nach Würzburg (Universitätsstadt in Bayern) gesucht.

Unsere Aktivitäten liegen im Stahlbau. Kenntnisse im technischen Sprachbereich und daher von Vorteil. Bitte reichen Sie zunächst Ihre Unterlagen (Leichtbild, Lebenslauf, Zeugnisse, Gehaltswünsche usw.)

an unsere Personalleitung ein; wir werden dann einen Termin für ein Gespräch mit Ihnen vereinbaren.

Gg. NOELL GmbH, Schweinfurter Str. 28

8700 Würzburg/Deutschland

Tel.: 01049-951-22011

ein Unternehmen der SALZGITTERGRUPPE

### P.A. Secretary 21+ £4,000

Large American based company with luxurious offices in Knightsbridge requires personal assistant with shorthand typing duties, to assist high powered American Executive, organising his busy office etc. Steady work record plus high standard of education necessary. Golfball typewriter.

Hours 9-5. L.V.s.

### BRISKSTART AGENCY

26, Berwick St., W.1

437 2882

### MAYFAIR SECRETARY

Responsible efficient Secretary required with sense of humour for Export Company. Extra language an asset. Good salary negotiable plus L.V.s. Please Ring 491. 4788

### PRESENTABLE, WELL SPOKEN

Executive, bilingual, English/German Secretary 22+ for German Company's London Office. Salary £4,000 negotiable. Telephone 01-620 1958

### ADVERTISING

Experienced SECRETARY required for a large, well known advertising agency. Salary negotiable. A.S. Ring Mrs. Gillett on 01-235 1272

### SECRETARY BOOKKEEPER

required for Architect's office in Kensington. Must be experienced in bookkeeping and have a good knowledge of the building industry. Salary negotiable. Please call 491 4788

**MORE APPOINTMENTS APPEAR ON PAGE 33**

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